



English - Reading

Our reading curriculum aims to produce life-long learners and citizens of the world. We use the Little Wandle Phonics scheme which consists of daily whole class sessions with a specific order of teaching phonemes and tricky words, as well as lots of repeated practice.

Reading skills are woven into a curriculum which promotes a love of reading and places an emphasis on learning to read early which then allows our children to read to learn. Early Years and Year 1 follow the Little Wandle reading scheme, which is linked to their Phonic programme. This consists of books to develop their blending skills as well as a range of textless books. Once pupils have completed the Little Wandle programme in Year 2 they transition onto the Oxford University Press Oxford Reading Tree scheme. This then continues throughout school to Year 6.

The reading diet of our children is not limited to the reading scheme. It is also supported by a range of non-fiction materials from the Leeds Schools Library Service, weekly visits to our school library and regular visits to borrow books from Whinmoor Public Library. We aim to develop a 'Love of Reading' in all our children and inspire their reading through a broad range of experiences including using visiting authors, taking part in the Leeds Book Awards, using the local library, theme days and book exchanges. These experiences inspire and motivate children in their learning.

All our classes have access to class novels. These texts are read, enjoyed, studied and used as a stimulus for writing by our classes. These novels include modern picture books such as 'The Gruffalo' classics like 'The Twits' challenging texts including 'The Monster Calls' but also non-fiction texts linked to the wider curriculum. Each class focuses on their Class Novel during their Love of Reading sessions. These sessions are an opportunity for all pupils to learn reading skills in a creative way e.g. drama, hot-seating, art and outdoor learning. As well as developing reading skills and exposing the children to a varied range of quality books they are used as a stimulus for writing, discussion, vocabulary development and topic work.

At WSP's we expect that every adult that is a 'Reading Teacher' – a role model for reading. We believe that reading for pleasure is strongly influenced by strong relationships between teacher and their pupils; children and their peers and children and their families. We understand that some of the books we as teachers treasure the most, were introduced to us by teachers and want to share the commitment and enjoyment of reading with the next generation. Therefore all teachers continuously develop their Reading CPD and knowledge of children's literature, authors and poetry.

Home reading is encouraged as part of a wider partnership with families and carers. In the early years and for those children still on the reading scheme, children are sent home with decodable reading books matched closely to the phonics scheme. Book bag books for children on Little Wandle should include: a reading record book to record reading when listened to and a copy of the story book that they have read 3 times in Little Wandle lessons. We encourage parents to read with their children on a daily basis and record this in their Reading Record book.

