



Reading and Phonics – Intent, Implementation and Impact

Intent

At Oldfield our aim is to create a love of reading, a culture in which reading is celebrated and opportunities for all children to share, read and enjoy a range of texts with their peers and others within the school. Reading is the cornerstone of education and a gateway to learning across all the subject areas. We are passionate about sharing the values of reading to our school community through a variety of initiatives to support children and parents/carers alike. Reading is well represented across the school, both within the timetables and learning environments. Within the school the children have access to a purpose-built non-fiction library, as well as dedicated reading areas within their classroom. We also host regular reading related visits, trips and activities through our links with the local library and external companies.

Our phonics Intent is that 95% of our Year 1 cohort will pass the Phonics Screening Check (PSC) at the end of Year 1.

Implementation

To ensure that the children have a positive start to reading, early reading is a key focus at Oldfield. We follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised phonics scheme. The scheme includes three weekly adult led small group reading sessions for children in Reception and Year 1. Sessions look at three main areas within early reading, decoding, prosody and comprehension. To support their phonics knowledge, children in Reception and Year 1 take home phonetically matched reading books. These books are read in the three weekly sessions at school. In addition to this, children are able to take home an additional book to support reading for pleasure once a week, this book can be read with, by or to the child. Children remain on the Little Wandle reading books until they come to the end of the scheme to ensure they have read a variety of texts which cover all Phase 2, 3, 4 and 5 GPCs. After the children finish the Little Wandle books, they are able to choose free reading for pleasure books from their class libraries. To achieve our target of 95% of children passing the PSC we have an additional teacher within the Year 1 classrooms each morning delivering the class lessons to a smaller group of children.

Reading is taught as a standalone lesson throughout the week from Year 1 to Year 6. Reading strategies as supported by our chosen scheme Complete Comprehension, units include non-fiction and fiction texts as well as poems and playscripts in KS2. Units cover a specific reading strategy, however, all strategies are discussed and used in daily reading sessions. Classes have dedicated reading time each day, this includes reading as a whole class by the class teacher, as well as independent reading.

In addition to classroom practices, a variety of year groups visit Maidenhead Library as part of their curriculum. Children in LKS2 have the opportunity to sign up for a termly book club, World Book Day is celebrated with great passion at the school and parents/carers receive a termly reading newsletter. Children in KS2 have regular visits to our in-house library (Learning Resources Centre). Classes also have a termly class librarian to offer recommendations to their peers and show care and attention to the reading for pleasure books.

Impact

Reading is assessed and monitored effectively through summative and formative assessments. Children in Years 1 – 6 take part in termly NTS assessments in reading. As part of our Little Wandle programme Reception and Year 1 children have a consolidation phonics assessment at the end of each term, this informs teachers as to who needs rapid catch-up support, as well as the suitably matched reading book for the following term. Children in Years 3 and 4 who did not pass the PSC retake in Year 2, or need additional support in reading receive regular rapid phonics catch up support from a specific member of staff as well as carefully matched reading books to support their learning at home and in school.