

The Teaching of Phonics and Reading at Cayton School

A Reader at Cayton School will have...

- Excellent phonic knowledge and skills.
- The passion to read for both study and for pleasure.
- Fluency and accuracy in reading across a wide range of contexts.
- Knowledge of an extensive and rich vocabulary.
- An excellent comprehension of texts.
- Extensive knowledge through having read a rich and varied range of texts.

At Cayton School, children will learn to read with confidence, fluency and understanding, providing them with the skills required to achieve a lifetime of enjoyment through reading.

Children read in school independently, in guided groups, with reading buddies, and as part of the on-going curriculum. They listen to adults and other children read, taking part in paired reading with their own and other age groups.

EARLY READING

Phonics

In EYFS the teacher/ practitioners introduce concepts of print and teach synthetic phonic skills using 'letters and sounds' with groups of children, on a daily basis.

Pupils are systematically taught the phonemes (sounds), how to blend the sounds and how to segment the sounds in order to write words. They are taught to use their phonic skills and knowledge as their first approach to reading, but also taught common exception words which do not completely follow phonic rules.

In EYFS and KS1 daily Phonic sessions take place with adult support. Where necessary, specific phonic support and 'Read Write, Inc' interventions are used to develop children's reading skills.

Children's progress is continually reviewed to allow for movement between ability groups, and children move phonics group when it is felt necessary to meet their needs. Children are formally assessed at the beginning of the year and at the end of each term.

For a link to the Government website for 'Letters and Sounds', [click here](#)

The national Phonics screening check is performed in June of Year 1. Prior to this, a Year 1 phonics workshop gives parents information about how they can support their children at home with phonics. The purpose of the screening check is to confirm that all children have learned phonic decoding to an age-appropriate standard. The children who did not meet the required standard for the check in year 1 enter again in year 2 with additional support. As children enter KS2, provision is made for those children still requiring daily phonics.

Reading Scheme

All Literacy is founded on the ability to read well.

During EYFS children progress to a stage where they are able to take part in group reading sessions. This is developed throughout School. Practitioners read with each child individually and in small groups.

When the teacher feels the child is ready, he/she begins to take a scheme book home. We have a variety of reading schemes, predominantly - 'The Oxford Reading Tree'. Throughout School children continue to take home reading books to share, discuss and model good reading strategies with adults.

Once children have progressed through the reading scheme, children will have an independent reading book of their own choice to read from the class or school library. We firmly believe that reading should be an enjoyable experience for all children.

Teachers may assist pupils by:

- Guiding them to books appropriate to their ability and interests
- Asking probing questions as your child reads
- Pairing your child with others, reading with or reading to your child.

Since they are reading books at their own reading and interest levels, children are likely to be successful and enjoy the books.

Staff at Cayton School follow guidance taken from the National Curriculum 2014: 'Progression in Reading'

How can I help my child become a better reader?

As with anything, performance improves with practice. According to Renaissance Learning's research, children who read at least 20 minutes a day see the greatest gains. Encourage your child to read at home, discuss books, ask questions about what they have read and visit your local library.

Reading at School

In EYFS, parents are encouraged to join their children for a 'book and bun' session every term. This allows parents and children to share books and stories. We want children to see that reading isn't just something that happens at school, but is part of everyday life and can be shared. We want to support parents with helping their children to become confident, lifelong readers.

In School, we provide a rich collection of books and reading resources. Children read in a variety of ways, exclusively as individuals, as part of a guided group and then as confidence increases as independent readers.

Developing Reading for Pleasure

We try to encourage a love of reading by holding book themed days e.g. Roald Dahl Day and events both as individual classes and across the whole school e.g. Reading Challenges such as World Book Day (linked to Mathematics).

Throughout the year your child will take part in 'Forrest Schools' which begin with a poem taken from 'The Lost Words', as well as educational visits out of school to promote reading for pleasure.

Reading assemblies take place and local librarians come in to school and encourage children to use the local library, introducing children to a variety of literature. In our school library, children's suggestions for new books are encouraged and information used when new books are purchased.

Children are able to borrow a book from the 'School Library' on a weekly basis to promote reading for pleasure.

Our School librarian (Mrs Brown), supported by the children, ensures that relevant books are purchased and that the library is an environment that the children enjoy to read in. Mrs Brown also raises money in order to purchase new books for the library.

Each KS2 class has a 'Reading for Pleasure' jar. Children are encouraged to read at home and complete a book review. They are given a raffle ticket for each review completed. A draw takes place every half term and the child with the drawn ticket is presented with a £5 book voucher.

Each class has a library area and votes for their 'Author of the year'.

Mr John, Mrs Monaghan and Mrs Brown have a weekly 'reading for pleasure book club'. This is for Year 5 and Year 6 children to attend. Authors and books are voted for by the children.

Each class has a 'vocabulary jar' where children, and adults, are encouraged to write any words that they encounter that they are unsure of or want to explore. These words are discussed as a whole class, looking at the definition and grammar links.

We also access public libraries as a great place for children to widen their reading experience. Visits are made to Eastfield library.

Assessment of Reading

Reading is assessed regularly and monitored on the School tracking system. In addition, children are assessed using the PIRA reading test (termly) to check progress. Liaison with the school SENCO and external agencies is arranged for children who require additional support and reading intervention strategies.