



Reading at Downview



Intent: This is why we teach what we teach:

At Downview Primary, reading is fully inclusive to every child. Our aims are to: fulfil the requirements of the National Curriculum for English, provide a broad and balanced curriculum and ensure the progressive development of knowledge and skills.

Reading is an essential skill that underpins all other learning across the curriculum. Research shows that children who enjoy reading achieve more success throughout school. Being a successful reader in school will lead not only to success in other subjects; the children will be readers for life, with all the benefits that this brings. For this reason, we teach all children to love books.

At Downview all children will:

- Decode words using a synthetic phonics approach
- Become fluent readers
- Be able to comprehend what they read
- Have access to high quality texts



Implementation: This is what we do:

To ensure high standards of teaching and learning in reading we implement a curriculum that is progressive throughout the whole school.

- **Phonics** - From the EYFS onwards children are taught phonics through the “Song of Sounds” synthetic phonics programme.
- **Reading scheme** - In KS1, the core reading scheme is Big Cat Phonics and Oxford Reading Tree. These books are organised according to a Book Banding system. The children also have access to ‘real books’ through their Read and Share packs,

- **Shared/Guided Reading** - the teacher uses quality texts to model the reading process to the whole class as an expert reader providing a high level of support. Longer, quality texts are read to the class, which may be above their own reading ability to immerse the children in a rich and varied reading experience.
- **Book Boxes** – From Year 1, each class has a set of Book Boxes containing quality texts, levelled according to group ability. Each box includes a variety of genres including: picture books, fiction, non-fiction and poetry. All books will be sent home to share as well as reading them daily at school.
- **Reading in the School Environment** - Each class also has a set of age appropriate dictionaries, thesaurus and word banks and a rich collection of texts and books in class book corners.
- **Home Reading** – Children use age appropriate Reading Record Books throughout the school to engage and record their home reading.
- **School Library** - In addition to reading the books selected by their teacher the children can attend a weekly lunchtime Library Club.
- **Reading events** - A love of reading is promoted through a variety of events, including our annual Book Week, World Book Day, visits to the local library and welcoming authors and illustrators to our school to share their stories with the children.

Impact: By the time children leave our school, they will:

Within reading, we strive to create a supportive and collaborative ethos for learning by providing investigative and enquiry based learning opportunities to help children gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of each unit of work covered throughout the school.

By the end of their time at Downview, children will be able to:

- to be effective, good listeners and competent communicators;
- to express opinions, articulate feelings and formulate responses to a range of texts both fiction and non-fiction using appropriate technical vocabulary;
- to foster an interest in words and their meanings, and to develop a growing vocabulary in both spoken and written form;
- to enjoy and engage with and understand a range of text types and genres;
- to develop powers of imagination, inventiveness and critical awareness in all areas of literacy;
- to use phonic strategies to read and spell.