

Phonics and the Teaching of Reading

At Engayne, we are dedicated to the promotion of reading for pleasure.

We therefore use a wide range and variety of reading texts in our daily English lessons, in guided comprehension lessons and in individual reading sessions.

In Reception and KS1, children read independently with an adult once a week. They read from a combination of real books, Oxford Reading Tree, Collins Big Cat, Floppy's Phonics and Rigby Star books, which are aimed at helping them to become enthusiastic and reflective readers, through contact with the broadest range of reading materials, and which also support their progression in reading. In KS1, children also undertake small group and whole class reading, including a daily story time. These activities provide children with the opportunity to accurately read aloud books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.

In KS2, children choose their reading materials from a wide selection of banded fiction and non-fiction books. All children also have access to the school libraries, where they can select books which they wish to read for pleasure, and are allocated banded Bug Club texts, which help them to develop their confidence as readers.

In Years 3 – 6, children work on reading activities with an adult, up to four times a week. During these sessions, children have the opportunity to broaden their understanding of tier two vocabulary, to develop reading strategies and to discuss texts in detail, whilst teachers model reading with intonation and other strategies, during shared reading sessions. All children also have regular opportunities to read individually with an adult, which provides time for both assessment and individual teaching of reading skills.

We also encourage parents to listen to their child read daily, to talk about books and to read to their children. We believe that this helps to develop reading skills, and also supports a lifelong love of reading. In KS2, children are also expected to read aloud to an adult three times per week, at home.

We recognise that, in the early stages of learning to read, phonics plays an important role. At Engayne, we follow the Letters and Sounds phonic teaching programme, although teachers are able to draw on resources from other schemes, including Phonics Play and LCP, in order to meet the needs of all the children.

Children are taught in class groups for daily discrete phonic sessions, according to their needs, and learning is reinforced in literacy lessons and guided or individual reading sessions. While phonics is mainly taught in Reception and KS1, it continues to be taught in KS2, depending on a child's needs.

Click the link below to listen to all the sounds (phonemes) your child will learn at school.

<https://youtu.be/-ksblMiliA8>

Please read our English Policy or speak to your child's teacher if you would like more information on reading and supporting your child.