



Reading at Kingfisher CE Academy

Intent: What do we want children to learn?

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Our vision is to inspire a love of reading and confidence in reading. To achieve our core vision, our intent is to provide a rigorous and progressive programme where children initially LEARN TO READ. They can then use these skills to READ TO LEARN.

At Kingfisher CE Academy, reading is an intrinsic part of teaching and learning. It forms a pivotal part of our curriculum. We recognise that the skill of reading provides children with access to the world around them and a wealth of knowledge which will support their learning and development in all other areas.

However, we also believe that reading brings joy and experiences that cannot be achieved in any other way; discovering new worlds, reflecting on the past and exploring emotions from the viewpoints of others who are similar and very different.



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Implementation: How do we do it at Kingfisher CE Primary Academy?

Phonics

At Kingfisher, we follow Little Wandle Phonics Scheme, and all teachers and Teaching Assistants have been trained on how to teach phonics effectively.

Phonological awareness and phonic knowledge is developed as soon as children start in nursery with Little Wandle Foundations.

All children from Reception to Year 2 take part in a daily phonics lesson. This lesson covers learning new phonemes and graphemes, blending, spelling and handwriting.

This focus provides children with the skills they need to begin to read and write words, captions and whole sentences as soon as possible.

From Year 2 onwards, children consolidate their knowledge of the Phonetic Code and learn different spelling rules and when to apply them.



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Implementation: How do we do it at Kingfisher CE Primary Academy?

Early Reading

Children are given fully decodable books that are closely matched to their developing knowledge of Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence and their ability to blend. We use Collins Big Cat Phonics for Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised texts.

Reading practice sessions led by a trained member of staff take place 3 times a week. These reading sessions use a matched book and cover three main skills; decoding prosody and comprehension. The reading practice book is then taken home to practice fluency, build confidence and celebrate success.

Once a child has progressed through the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised scheme they will be able to access free reading books as they will have all the necessary skills to do so. This is in line with The Reading Framework 2023 but will be guided by a teacher.

From Year 2 onwards we use Whole Class Reading sessions to teach the necessary skills of retrieval, prediction, inference, summary to ensure that pupils are able to understand and read with meaning. The texts used link closely to the writing theme for the term allowing children to make connection and links between themes, authors and between reading and writing.



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Implementation: How do we do it at Kingfisher CE Primary Academy?

Developing a love of reading At Kingfisher, children access a range of high-quality engaging texts across a range of genres. These are linked across subjects and areas of learning with teachers sharing and modelling a range of reading strategies. Our classrooms have mini libraries linked to different curriculum areas. Book club takes place once a week in classes and children talk about their chosen book and give recommendations. Our two libraries (EYFS & KS1 and KS2) are being developed and in the future will host weekly class sessions as well as being open after school for parents and carers.

Reading at home Research shows that children who read daily develop reading fluency at a more rapid rate and become more confident and eloquent writers. We aspire to this for all our children and believe that the most important thing parents and carers can do at home to help their children achieve is to share books with them. We encourage children to read at home daily with their adults but also recognise our responsibility in not relying on children reading at home.



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Impact: On leaving Kingfisher CE Primary Academy children will:

The pupils at our school will learn to read accurately and with understanding. They will understand the importance of this skill.

Because they can read efficiently and effectively, they will have the power to make the most of opportunities presented to them.



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Impact: On leaving Kingfisher CE Primary Academy children will:

Phonological awareness and phonic knowledge is developed as soon as children start in nursery with Little Wandle Foundations, a comprehensive pre-phonics programme designed to help build strong foundations for reading in Nursery. It is aligned to the non-statutory guidance in Development Matters and Birth to 5 Matters as well as the Statutory framework for the Early Years foundation stage. Use it as part of wider provision for Communication and Language, and Literacy.

It supports children to:

- develop their phonological awareness, including understanding of rhyme, alliteration, syllables, initial and voice sounds, and oral blending
- love stories and rhymes, and learn by heart a bank of familiar favourites
- increase their vocabulary and confidence to talk
- improve their listening and ability to take part in back-and-forth conversations.