Reading and Phonics at Waverley Primary School

Reading plays a vital role in the development and education of your child. At Waverley, we ensure that pupils have lots of opportunities to read in a range of different contexts.

Phonics

From beginning with us in the Early Years and right through KS1, we deliver a consistent approach to phonics using the RWI Phonics programme. Read, Write, Inc is aligned to the National Curriculum.

Every pupil works through the programme to help them decode (sound out) words that they read and spell. Reading focusses on understanding what they have read and also links into short writing activities. Small group work on a daily basis allows staff to pinpoint any individual who may need additional support in this area and they will plan intervention activities if needed. Teachers will always keep parents and carers informed if their child is receiving additional support.

Reading schemes

The reading schemes we use include RWI ‘Ditty’ Books, Read, Write Inc Stories and Collins Big Cats. Pupils read through a set of book banded books. Each colour in the book band represents a different level. We provide a rich reading diet and a range of books at different levels within each book band. Pupils are always aware of which book band they are working at and recognise the book band that they are working towards. We have a wealth of books that can give reading breadth at the same band level such as Oxford Reading Tree, Rigby Rockets.

Opportunities for reading

Pupils read regularly in all areas of the curriculum and in every part of the school day through:

- **Whole Class Text Study** - English lessons are taught through a quality text which is chosen carefully by the Class Teacher; across the year the texts will include a literary classic as well as texts which have been chosen due to the many opportunities of vocabulary development they offer. Children will engage in many reading activities which will promote a deeper comprehension of the text before pausing the book study to embark on a sequence of work which results in a written outcome, all linked to the text.

- **Guided Reading** - Teachers work with small groups of pupils to teach specific and targeted reading skills in a book that is sufficiently challenging.

- **Reading Across the Curriculum** - Pupils read a range of books linked to other areas of their learning, there is very much a focus on ‘reading to learn’ across foundation curriculum areas, with children engaging in wider research, both online and through fiction and non-fiction texts. We have created a research centre in the middle of school which contains both texts and computing equipment so research can take place in a variety of ways. We have invested in Key Stage class sets of I-pads so that reading and research can be taken into the classroom.

- **Story Time** - In Early years and Key Stage One, books are read to pupils for them to hear good examples of reading aloud and to develop an enthusiasm for reading books themselves. From year 2 onwards class books are shared with pupils, where they read along with the teacher or read aloud to the class, there are opportunities for the class to read ahead and then for class discussion.

At Waverley we have created an outdoor reading area so that at breaks and lunch times pupils can access a range of texts whilst outdoors and read for pleasure.

In addition, we have a range of helpers including helpers from the ‘school reader’ scheme who hear children read in school 1:1.