



**Wycliffe Church of England Primary School**

# Reading Policy



Ratified by the governing body:  
To be reviewed:

May 2020  
May 2022

## **Vision Statement**

“Life in all its fullness” (John 10:10)

*Our vision is to ensure that our school family are happy and fulfilled in a creative learning environment. This will be flexible and cater to individual needs and develop a love for learning through which all members can flourish. Our priority is to nurture habits and accountability which lead to sustainable development and responsibility.*

At Wycliffe Primary School, teachers make explicit the links between reading, writing and speaking and listening. A range of fiction and non-fiction texts are available to the children and the notion of everyone a reader is promoted across the school.

## **Aims**

Our Reading Policy aims to ensure:

- Discrete and focused phonics, alongside daily spellings, is taught every day in Reception and Key Stage 1
- All children read from books with the sounds they know, while they are learning to read
- Teachers and teaching assistants provide extra practice (such as reading with an additional adult during the week) through the day for the children who make the slowest progress (the lowest 20%)
- All children can read age-appropriate books
- Teachers instil in children a love of literature

To promote high standards and a love of reading at Wycliffe, and in line with our vision of valuing all God’s children, we aim to ensure that ALL pupils:

- Read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- Acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- Are competent in the skills of speaking and listening, asking and responding to questions and participating in discussions, demonstrating understanding of what they have read

## **Reading and Phonics at School**

### **EYFS**

When children enter Reception, they experience a wide variety of stories and different text types. Books are readily available for children to look at and share with adults. They are taught how to handle books and learn that all print carries meaning. Children are encouraged to understand elements of a story and discuss what they know about the characters. They also listen to and participate with nursery rhymes and jingles, and books are read frequently to children throughout the day. Reading is also taught through phonic activities. This encourages children to learn the sounds of the alphabet, whilst also teaching them how to blend the sounds together to read the words. Children begin to bring home a reading book to practise at home.

## **KS1 and KS2**

During KS1 children are encouraged to form an interest in and take pleasure from a variety of text types. They are taught strategies to decode words. Throughout the school, children develop reading skills through daily reading practice, whole class sessions and reading to an adult. Children continue to take home a reading book every night, for further practice at home. Children have opportunities to read a variety of text types, varying in length and complexity, to provide challenge.

We read in various ways, across all subjects to develop a love of reading. High quality texts have been purposefully chosen to enhance the learning experience and make links to the wider curriculum.

Teaching sequences in English have been thoughtfully planned, using core texts that both challenge and inspire children with reading and writing. We enjoy reading in different ways across all areas of the curriculum, reading focus texts as a class, in groups, pairs and individually.

## **The Teaching of Reading**

At Wycliffe Primary School, phonics is emphasised in the early teaching of reading to secure independent decoding. From Year One onwards, we teach weekly reading comprehension sessions, focusing on developing pupils' competence in both word reading and comprehension as outlined in the National Curriculum Programmes of Study for Reading. Skilled word reading involves both the speedy decoding of unfamiliar printed words and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Underpinning both is the understanding that the letters on the page represent the sounds in spoken words.

Each week, all children read with an adult during 1:1 sessions. We also have a well-stocked school library and each classroom provides a range of stimulating reading material in our welcoming book corners.

## **Reading Champions**

We are proud to be part of the BDAT Reading Champions network (launched in January 2020) working closely with schools in the Trust to develop and promote reading. Reading for pleasure is at the heart of this initiative. Throughout the year, events are planned to promote reading for pleasure in the school community.

## **Assessment**

Assessment for learning is ongoing and formal assessments are taken each term. Teaching staff assess attainment in Reading every term to update Eazmag (our in-house assessment system) using evaluations made on their planning and reading comprehension sessions, written assessments of comprehension and independent learning the children have produced – either written or verbal. Phonics progress is assessed half termly. We use NFER tests per term and use past SATs papers throughout the year to help prepare Year 6 for their external tests in May.

In addition to our testing procedures, we use Alison Philipson Assessment Grids for Reading. This enables accurate recording and assessment of children fulfilling National Curriculum objectives.

## **Home Reading**

We work in partnership with parents and carers, so that pupils develop a love of books and reading. Parents are expected to share books with their children. Our expectation is that parents hear children read at home regularly and record reading in the child's Home Reading Record book - this is signed by staff and parents. Reading records communicate reading progress between home and school, and

include teachers' and parents' feedback. This is communicated throughout the school year through various ways, including our school newsletter and Parents' Evenings. Daily reading at home and at school is essential to ensure children make good progress in developing reading skills, whatever their age.

Reading books sent home match the children's learning and reading ability, so that they can:

- Practise learning the phonics sounds they know
- Develop inference skills
- Improve understanding of grammatical knowledge
- Enhance the reading for pleasure experience

