

Becket Primary School

A guide to reading and writing in Reception



The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
LEARN,
the MORE places you'll go.



Reading and our expectations

- Children who read at home make excellent progress and develop a love of reading.
- **Children who are the most engaged with literacy** are three times more likely to have higher levels of mental wellbeing and success at school.
- At Becket Primary School, our expectation is that children should be reading at home a **minimum of 4 times** a week - even if you can only read 3 pages at a time.

How to help your child with reading

Listening to your child read can take many forms:

- Focus on creating an enjoyment and love of reading.
- Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child is equally as important as listening to your child read.
- Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!

How to help your child with reading

- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.
- Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the internet or an app on a phone or tablet.
- All reading is valuable – it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.
- Visit the local library - it's free!

Success for All Phonics

Success for All Phonics is a complete literacy programme that supports your child to learn all the skills needed to successfully read, write and spell. It is part of a wide range of literacy programmes that come from FFT.

FFT is a charity who have created an engaging, proven programme that children enjoy and do well with. There are lots of beautifully created and engaging resources such as flashcards, sound mats, and other resources to support children's learning. There is also a specially written set of 68 decodable reading books that include a variety of genres, which will be used in class and sent home in either hard copies or digital books.

What is phonics?

- Phonics is a method for teaching reading and writing. We have daily lessons of 15-20 minutes – lessons are fast, fun and multisensory.
- It develops phonemic awareness – the ability to hear, recognise and use the sounds within words.
- Learners are also taught the correspondence between sounds and the graphemes (spelling patterns) that represent them.
- Children will also be taught other skills, such as whole-word recognition ('red words'), book skills and a love and enjoyment of reading.

Phonetic knowledge - key terms

- Phoneme – a unit of sound e.g. a
- Grapheme – how a sound is written
- Digraph – two letters one sound e.g. sh
- Trigraph – three letters one sound e.g. igh
- Split digraph – Digraph that is split by a consonant. Usually a long vowel sound, e.g. 'a-e' (cake), 'i-e' (five), 'o-e' (code), 'e-e' (sphere) and 'u-e' (rule)
- Blending – putting together sounds to read the word e.g. f-r-o-g, frog
- Segmenting – breaking a word into its sounds to spell them e.g. frog, f-r-o-g

Pronunciation

- T not t-uh
- <https://vimeo.com/showcase/9340990>
- The handout has the details for the portal on with lots of additional information including the pronunciation guidance

What happens in our lessons

- Alphabet chant
- Sound recap
- Sound detective (initial sound)
- Introduce new sound
- Read CVC/CVCC words
- Write new grapheme

Guided reading and reading at home

- We are building up to daily guided reading lessons throughout the week
- The children will explore a book, discuss key words (green and red words) and take part in comprehension activities
- On the Friday the children will bring the book home to share their success with you – PLEASE ENSURE THE BOOKS COME BACK TO SCHOOL **EVERYDAY**. Books will be changed on a Friday
- Please record their reading in their reading records