



Reading and Books

I want my child to do well at school so what can I do to help?

Reading is always the most important homework. Reading underpins learning in every other subject so whatever ambitions you and your children share for the future, the ability to read and understand a text will make a difference.

How many times a week does school expect children to read?

We hope our children are enjoying books everyday ... before tea, after tea, before bed ... whenever suits your home timetable best. Teachers will look for a **minimum of three comments and adult signatures** in the reading log. Every class has a book change day on which logs are checked. If books are not returned or if there is not enough evidence of reading your child's class teacher may invite you into class for an informal chat to offer support and guidance.

What books should children be reading?

Children should be reading a range of good fiction, non-fiction and poetry books. One book is provided by school; this sometimes is a 'scheme' book so that teachers can be sure that children are reading books of appropriate and increasing challenge. However, children are not limited to just reading their school book. We would love to see comments about other books from home, books received as gifts, books from the library etc... Older children who have moved beyond the reading scheme should be independently selecting books that they enjoy. To move readers on, teachers will again look for appropriate challenge in book selection.

Do I always have to hear my child read?

Hearing a child read regularly is an important part of learning at home. In Key Stage One (R, Y1 and Y2) and lower Key Stage Two (Y3 and Y4) it is good practice to listen to your child read however, in upper Key Stage Two (Y5 and Y6) children should be encouraged to read independently. In upper Key Stage Two parents and carers should questions about the characters and plot to check understanding.

What is a good reader?

Good readers enjoy books. They have a thirst for reading and always have a book on the go. Good readers can talk about books and authors and start to develop preferences. Good readers think books are happy, sad, exciting, funny etc... With your help, all of our children can be readers. Don't forget – you are reading role models too.