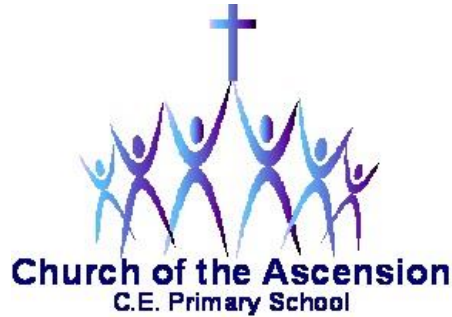


Church of the Ascension CE Primary School



‘Learn with love, flourish with faith.’

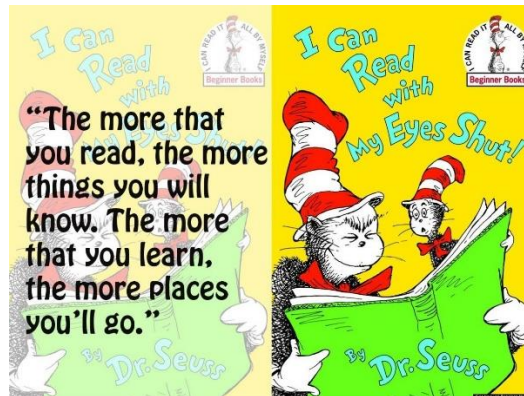
Our School Vision:

To create a loving, caring community where children thrive as individuals in a rich learning environment.

To be a place where everyone works together in an atmosphere which celebrates mutual respect and inclusiveness, thereby encouraging spiritual development.

Our Approach to the Teaching and Learning of Reading

Subject Intent



At Church of the Ascension Primary School we value reading as a key life skill and as such, we are dedicated to delivering a curriculum with reading firmly rooted at the centre. We strongly believe that reading is vital for all academic success; in addition we aim to ensure our children become independent, resilient, lifelong readers for both knowledge and for pleasure. In order to deliver these essential skills throughout the school, we apply the following:

- Each classroom has an abundance of quality reading materials to suit all preferences and abilities within a designated reading area, which is designed to promote and celebrate reading.
- Children are encouraged to read aloud in all subjects and to answer carefully constructed questions to demonstrate fluency and understanding.
- All children have access to a library of books to allow them free choice of suitable book within an ability range which they can read in school and at home to share with parents. A record of reading is kept and signed by the teacher and parent regularly.
- Children take part in quality guided reading sessions with an adult, this allows the opportunity to hear modelled reading, for targeted questions where the children can demonstrate the depth of their reading knowledge.
- Children who need extra support with their reading will be given an age appropriate phonics reading book to read with an adult individually to work towards independence as a reader.
- Reading Buddies from different classes often have the opportunity to read and share texts together, building resilience and discussion around a book.
- Daily story telling sessions take place throughout the school, this allows teachers to share a selection of texts for enjoyment and to promote listening and discussion.
- Book Club takes place once each week to celebrate and promote reading in classes.
- Children receive awards in Praise Assembly for their reading achievements.
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By the time children leave Church of the Ascension Primary School, they are independent, competent readers who can recommend books to their peers, have a desire to read a range of genres and can confidently participate in discussions about their reading. In addition to developing an enjoyment of reading, children will have gained the resilience required to approach unfamiliar vocabulary methodically and with confidence.

Subject Implementation

Teachers carefully and methodically plan reading sessions based on developing fluency, comprehension and confidence in their readers. Books for book studies are chosen to ignite a passion for reading and to stimulate vocabulary development. A school list of age appropriate books are available for teachers to choose their Book Studies from to avoid repetition.

Children in Key stage 1 read to their teacher or support staff either individually or in a guided session twice per week. Guided reading and phonics sessions are delivered through Phonics Bug and supplemented by other reading schemes and materials such as Ginn and Headstart.

Highly structured phonics sessions are delivered every day throughout EYFS and Key Stage 1, we use a synthetic phonics programme as a method of learning sounds and blending them together to read and write words. As part of this, children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 have daily phonics lessons in small groups where they participate in speaking, listening and spelling activities matched to their developing needs. During these sessions, teachers continually assess and observe their pupils to ensure they are suitably stretched and challenged and to identify any children who may require additional support.

Whereas, in Key Stage 2, children read within a guided reading session at least once per week, more if necessary, using a variety of differentiated texts. The lower attaining children in Key Stage 2 read with a Teaching Assistant during intervention sessions using the Dandelion Reading Scheme and targeted teaching using Phonics Tracker.

Children in Key Stage 2 and some children identified as Gifted and Talented readers in Key Stage 1 follow the Accelerated Reader Programme. They are assessed using an online reading assessment which then provides the children with a ZPD score, this is then used by the children to select reading books appropriate to their ability. Once they have completed a book, the children are required to take a short quiz to determine the comprehension of the book. The data collected from the programme is closely monitored by teachers.

Teachers must assess children regularly against the Reading objectives (Years 1-6) and against the Reading Early Learning Goal (in EYFS). These regular assessments inform planning and allow teachers to identify any gaps in learning.

At Church of the Ascension Primary School, we recognise reading as a key life skill, but also put great importance on reading for enjoyment. Promoting reading for enjoyment is one of the most impactful ways to foster a lifelong love of learning and creativity. When people read for pleasure, they are more likely to develop strong literacy skills, expand their knowledge, and improve their emotional intelligence. We use several strategies to encourage reading for fun:

Create a Positive Reading Environment

A welcoming and comfortable space for reading can make a significant difference. We aim to provide a designated area in each classroom with a well-stocked library and display area, by having a dedicated reading area we can create the right reading atmosphere for our children. These areas will cater for all reading tastes, offering a variety of genres and formats, such as novels, graphic novels, poetry, newspapers and magazines.

Model Reading Behaviour

One of the best ways to promote reading is by setting an example. Children, in particular, are more likely to pick up a book if they see adults in their lives regularly reading for pleasure. Sharing what we are reading and discussing it with others can spark curiosity and inspire others to read. We have a timetabled Book Club session each week throughout

school which encourages staff and children to share reading recommendations, reading challenges, or simply discuss books with friends, this allows us to create a sense of community making reading fun and social.

While reading helps build vocabulary, comprehension, and writing skills, the primary goal of reading for enjoyment is to inspire a sense of wonder and fun. We celebrate the joy of finishing a book and the pleasure that comes from discovering new stories.

Celebrate Reading

Through our praise assemblies, we celebrate milestones in reading, such as completing a reading challenge or reaching a target, acknowledging these accomplishments create a sense of achievement and motivate further reading.

Subject Impact

What are the outcomes for our children in this subject?

Through our carefully designed curriculum, by the time children leave Church of the Ascension they will: become independent, fluent readers by the end of Key Stage 1. This allows for the focus in Key Stage 2 reading sessions to be on developing fluency and refining comprehension skills.

As we believe that reading is firmly at the heart of learning at Church of the Ascension, we endeavour to promote the wonders of reading and the magical world of books at every available opportunity. Children are strongly encouraged to read for enjoyment in order to enhance their learning in all subjects across the curriculum and to develop their own personal taste in genres and authors as they mature as independent readers. We place a great deal of value on the sharing of books and children at all ages are encouraged to review books read with confidence and objectivity. Through our passionate approach to reading at Church of the Ascension, we seek to foster a deep love of literature across a range of genres, cultures and styles.

Children know that reading is a required skill for any job in the future.

Children are confident, fluent readers with a passion for the written word.

Children regularly access and read a range of genres.

Children use phonic knowledge to decode unfamiliar words.



Children are able to read books and other texts to enhance their knowledge and understanding in all subjects.

Children will make at least good progress in reading from their starting point in EYFS.

Children enjoy reading at home and parents know how to support

How do we know that we have achieved these outcomes?

Our children can talk confidently, and with enthusiasm, about texts they have read and can articulate their reading choices and preferences.

Reading attainment is measured using the statutory reading assessments at the end of each key stage. These results are then measured against those achieved by children nationally. Phonics attainment is measured through the results of the Phonics Screening Test at the end of Year One.