

Teaching of Reading at Hartsbourne

Upon joining the school, children's reading abilities will be assessed and they will choose a reading book from within our reading scheme. Books will be changed regularly and children will be encouraged to read as much as possible at home. In the event that children can't or don't read at home, provision will be made to allow them to read with adults in school.

As children progress in both decoding and comprehension, they will be regularly assessed and advance through the reading scheme with the ultimate aim to become a 'free reader' and read books of their choice. Children will also be given regular opportunities to visit the school library to choose a book to read for pleasure. Reading records will be used to allow teachers to monitor the frequency of reading at home.

Each year group will be issued with 'reading maps', containing agreed text recommendations appropriate for their age. As children progress through their map and complete each book, they will earn rewards.

From Reception onwards, children will take part in daily phonics lessons, following the 'Jolly Phonics' scheme of work. More information on the specific teaching of phonics is available in our Phonics Teaching document on the school website. Our perennial aim is for children to complete Phase 6 of phonics by the end of Year 2 and any children who don't will be given extra phonics provision in Year 3.

The teaching of reading will also be delivered through guided reading sessions from Year 1 to Year 6. These sessions will usually adopt a carousel approach from Year 1-3, moving towards a whole-class reading approach from Years 4-6. Teachers will read with children either in groups or as a whole class, ensuring that texts that are read are well-matched to the children's reading scheme level. They will also make other reading activities available, with an increasing focus on comprehension in KS2.

All units of English will be based around high-quality texts, in line with the year-group half-termly topic. These texts will sit at the heart of the unit of work and provide inspiration for a range of pieces of writing.

Teachers will assess the children's reading level within the book band system on an ongoing basis, ideally half-termly. Once per term, teachers will assess their children in reading, using a combination of their book band level, day-to-day assessment of their work in guided reading and English lessons and if appropriate, summative assessments using Testbase materials or past SATs papers.