

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith



Early Reading Intent Document

Intent

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, we believe reading unlocks all learning therefore we are dedicated to ensuring all our children have access to a high-quality reading provision which in turn develops children's love of reading.

We aim to inspire an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage and a habit of reading widely and often. We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children take pride in their reading. At St Mary's, we give high priority to the teaching of reading as we firmly believe it is key to wider learning.

Implementation

At St Mary's:

- Children in EYFS and Year 1 are taught early reading and phonics through the accredited program 'Essential Letters and Sounds'.
- A wide range of texts are used throughout the curriculum.
- All staff are trained to ensure high quality of questioning takes place across all reading domains.
- When planning the curriculum, staff ensure the texts used reflect our whole school community, as well showing clear progression across the school.
- All children are read with once a week with a trusted adult.
- Children in EYFS & KS1 take a pleasure for reading book home which they are able to change as regularly as they wish. Parents are encouraged to read and discuss the stories with the children, as well as to re-read books to the children, so they have a number of stories to draw upon when writing their own.
- Each classroom has a reading area that contains a variety of books including non-fiction, fiction and poetry relating to the current class topic. This will be changed every half term.

We endeavour to foster a culture that loves literature, where children love to read and love to be read to. A love that we hope they will carry with them through the rest of their lives beyond the St Mary's school gates. In school, there are many ways that we aim to promote a love of reading:

- Mystery Readers
- Library bus visit every 3 weeks
- Lending library
- Reading pets
- Book swaps
- Reading challenges
- World Book Day
- Reading based prizes at the end of term
- Parent workshops
- Recommended reading lists sent home
- Class texts are advertised on class doors and newsletters

- Literacy based themed days (for example, Earth Day)

Impact

Our Reading curriculum offers high-quality and well-planned lessons, which encourage progression. Key vocabulary is embedded in each lesson.

In order to ensure our aims have been met, we scrutinise learning through the following methods:

- Reading is assessed against the Lancashire KLIPS at an age-appropriate level.
- The lower 20% of children read 1:1 daily to a trusted adult.
- Assessment for learning is used daily within class to identify any children in need of keep-up support, but also weekly within Review lessons to address gaps immediately.
- Children are assessed every six weeks. Those children who are not at age-related expectations will be provided with regular intervention in the form of either small group work or 1:1.
- Those children in KS2 who have not reached aged-related expectations in Phonics complete regular targeted interventions.

The above enables the teacher to make an informed judgement on the children's understanding and record their Phonics and reading ability on the school tracking tool, Lancashire Tracker hub, on a termly basis.

For any additional information regarding Early Reading please contact Miss Wade (Subject Lead) or Mrs Smallwood (Subject Governor).