



Phonics & Reading Information

Reading plays a vital role in the development and education of your child. At Gorsewood we ensure that children have lots of opportunities to read in lots of different contexts.

Phonics

In the Early Years and Key Stage 1 we deliver a consistent approach to phonics. Every child in EYFS, Key Stage 1 and where appropriate Key Stage 2 works through a programme called 'letters and sounds' to help them decode (sound out) words that they read and spell. Reading is linked into understanding what they have read and also links into short writing activities. We also use other resources to boost your child's phonic skills - One-to-One Tutoring; Toe-by-Toe; Small group work and intervention activities. Teachers will always keep you informed if your child is having additional support.

Reading schemes

Children in Key Stage 1 read through the Rigby Star reading scheme and in Key Stage 2 Rigby Navigator and through a set of banded books. Each colour in the book band is a different level. We provide a diet and range of books at different levels within a book band.

Free Readers

At Gorsewood, we are keen for children to make choices about books and children have the opportunity to choose their own books to read in class or take home. This encourages the children to find their favourite author or genre that they can share with each other and at home.

Opportunities for reading

Children also read regularly in other areas of the curriculum and in other parts of the school day through:

Guided Reading – Teachers and Support Assistants work with small groups of children to teach children specific and targeted reading skills in a book that is sufficiently challenging.

Key Stage 2 – Children read independently to promote positive reading habits.

Reading Across the Curriculum - Across the school, children read a range of books linked to other areas of their learning.

Storytime – Storytime happens across the school and in a number of different ways. In EYFS, children share a story and often use this as a basis for their speaking and listening skills. In Key Stage 1, books are read to children for them to hear good examples of reading aloud and to develop an enthusiasm for reading books themselves. Class books are shared with children in Key Stage 2, where they read along with the teacher.

Bug Club – All children are able to access interactive reading books online through their own login. Children have the opportunity to answer quiz questions about the books earning 'Bug Points' that convert to rewards.

Paired Reading – Older children help younger improve their reading by listening to and helping them read.

Here at Gorsewood we continually strive to promote a love of reading to ensure that children are ready for the next stages in their learning. Watch out for the things that are happening around school to help your child to read.