Reading Curriculum Statement

Reading at Laira Green Primary

At Laira Green Primary, we know that more than any other subject, English allows children to access the wider curriculum in a deep and meaningful way. Fluency in the English language is essential for all of our children, and our intent is for every child to become a confident reader throughout their time with us. In addition, we will foster within our children a love of reading and an excitement about books, to build a lifetime of learning and reading for pleasure.

Reading happens multiple times across each day at Laira Green Primary. Our "Drop Everything and Read" sessions occur in every classroom at least once a day, and may include children reading independently, reading 1:1 with an adult, sharing and discussing a book together, or simply enjoying listening to a teacher reading the next instalment of a story.

In Preschool, our children explore a new nursery rhyme each week, becoming familiar with language, rhyme and storytelling as they use their learning environment to further explore the context of each rhyme. In Reception, children are immersed in stories through daily storytelling sessions, used as a stimulus to develop language and vocabulary skills. From Year 1 to Year 6, children share books together from a large bank of fiction texts, progressing from picture books and short stories through to complex novels as the children develop their reading skills and understanding. Teachers use these books as a foundation for guided reading, modelling skills such as inference and exploring new vocabulary through a whole-class approach.

Each classroom has its own class library, stocked with a variety of books carefully selected by the class teacher to engage and inspire the individuals within the class, alongside a variety of non-fiction texts related to the current learning. Our whole-school library is a highly valued space which all children visit regularly, maintained by dedicated staff and our pupil librarians, and supported by the School's Library Service to provide a regularly updated selection of books for our children. In addition, a weekly "Book Club" session allows children to explore a wide variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction, in a carefully structured environment that helps them to expand their reading experience and have confidence in sharing and discovering together.

All children from Reception onwards regularly borrow books from our school library, at first to share with adults, and later to enjoy reading independently. For our younger learners, our partnership with 'Let's Read Together' allows children from Preschool to borrow special bags of board books on a weekly basis, inspiring a love of reading from a young age. Laira Green also promotes the power of reading throughout our wider community. Our pupils make regular visits to our community library, where they are able to explore an ever-changing selection of books. As part of our Community Food Hub, we also offer a free book stall to our parents and carers, inviting adults to take, enjoy and pass on a wide selection of reading material. Parents and carers are encouraged to join their children each term as part of a 'Read with Us' session in each class, and we also participate in the 'Silver Readers' scheme, where our older learners read regularly to isolated, elderly residents in the local community.

As part of their daily activities, our Preschool learners follow the 'Little Wandle Foundation for Phonics' programme, exploring phonological and phonetic awareness through games. When children join us in Reception and KS1, they follow the Little Wandle Phonics

Programme, learning systematic synthetic phonics alongside reading decodable books matched to their phonic ability. These decodable books are enjoyed both in school and at home, and read multiple times to build fluency, expression and understanding. All adults model applying the alphabetic code both within and beyond phonics lessons, and across the curriculum, to support pupils in quickly grasping the fundamental phonic understanding needed in order to become a fluent reader. As a Little Wandle Champion School, we are proud to be at the forefront of delivering this programme, and regularly share our experience and expertise with school leaders across the South West.

Children with a secure grasp of GPCs and able to read independently progress to the Accelerated Reader program, an online system which assesses children's reading level and then suggests a range of books to match each child's reading age and interests. Pupils are encouraged to read independently and experience success as they quiz on each book they complete, earning points and certificates as they continue to read new books.

Beyond the classroom, our carefully selected Junior Librarians and Reading leaders promote reading across the school, sharing books with younger readers, taking care of our School Library and choosing new books for our school. Children are encouraged to read at home at least 5 times a week, and can earn raffle tickets for logging their reading on 'Boom Reader', our app to record children's reading with all adults, both at home and in school. Our termly reading raffles celebrate the joy of reading for pleasure, granting luck winners a 'golden coin' to choose a book from our special vending machine.

At Laira Green Primary, we expect our readers to:

- Choose to read independently, for pleasure
- Read fluently, confidently and with passion
- Recommend books they have read to others
- Reflect critically on books to evaluate their own enjoyment
- Make connections between different books they have read
- Share a love of reading with others around them