



Mayfield Primary School- Phonics and Reading

Our Approach to the Teaching of Phonics and Reading

Understanding English

English has a prominent place in education and in society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Reading, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils, therefore, who do not learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently are effectively disenfranchised.

Phonics Programme

Letters and Sounds is used and followed throughout Early Years and Key Stage One. We have been loyal to this programme since its introduction, leading to a consistent approach and good results and in the phonics screening check.

Resources

Teachers draw on a range of resources to meet all learning styles and ensure teaching is exciting, motivating, effective, and meets all learning styles. The resources include:

- **The Bug Club**
- **Phonics Play**
- **Grapheme boards**
- **Whiteboards and pens**
- **Magnetic letters**
- **Phonics games**
- **Flashcards**

Planning and Assessment and Tracking

At Mayfield, we follow the four-part daily lesson plan format (Review, Teach, Practice, Apply). Planning is differentiated to meet the needs of all the children. Teachers ensure each plan is personal to their current year group, taking into account the needs of the children, speed of progress, learning styles and differentiation. We constantly review and adapt the plans. The LCP (LCP Phonics Planning Second Edition) plans are used to support planning **BUT** as a guide only. Children are taught in groups. Formative assessment is ongoing and planning adapted accordingly. Assessment is used to inform which group each child is placed in. Teaching is fast paced and all children actively participate. Continuing assessment ensures progress is monitored and children move groups to suit their ability as and when necessary. Intervention programmes are implemented swiftly for targeted children where necessary.

All staff strive to ensure the children make outstanding progress.

The Teaching of Reading

The teaching of reading is an essential part of our school curriculum.

Early Years (Nursery and Reception)

The skills of early reading are taught to the children from the first moment they enter school. An enjoyment of reading is fostered through hearing stories, singing rhymes, making books and taking books home.

EYFS/KS1

Our school reading scheme supports the systematic teaching of phonics and encourages the acquisition of other core reading skills.

Within EYFS and KS1, our main school reading scheme is Oxford Reading Tree (ORT).

This scheme incorporates:

- Picture books for discussion
- Floppy Phonics
- Songbirds (phonics)
- Traditional Tales
- Biff, Chip and Kipper stories
- True Stories
- Treetops Non-Fiction
- Project X

- Oxford Reading Tree

KS2

In KS2 we continue to follow the ORT scheme, up until the children become free readers. Children who are still on the reading scheme continue to receive individual reading sessions. Children who are free reading, complete book reviews when they have finished the books, and regular assessment of their reading levels and ability takes place.

All school reading books are organised in conjunction with national book band colours so that they children acquire new skills, gain independence and are challenged as they move through the book bands. All genres are covered.

Guided Reading

FS/KS1

As well as daily phonics lessons, all children in Reception class and KS 1 have weekly guided reading sessions with their class teacher and teaching assistants. Within these sessions, children are encouraged to apply their phonic skills to blend sounds and to develop their understanding of texts through differentiated, careful questioning and discussion work.

Guided reading books comprise of:

- Collins Big Cat
- Oxford Reading Tree
- Rigby Star Guided reading books cover a wide range of genres which capture children's interests.
- Bug Club Comics for Phonics

Again, all guided reading books are organised into national book band colours to ensure reading skill progression and challenge.

KS2

Since September 2017, KS2 have moved away from the carousel guided reading approach to a whole class guided read. Whole-class reading sessions mean that children of all attainment bands are immersed in the same high-quality literature and the discussions that these texts promote, whilst still getting the support they need.

Books are carefully chosen and where possible closely linked to the topic of the half term. All genres are covered, including song lyrics, poetry, instructions, not just fiction books. Interventions are implemented if children are found to be struggling with any aspect of their reading. Guided reading sessions take place at least 3 times a week.

From May 2018, all KS2 children will be involved with Accelerated Reader. AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice. A child chooses a book at his/her own level and reads it at his own pace. When finished, the child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.) AR gives both children and teachers feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses to help your child set goals and direct ongoing reading practice.

Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them.

Teachers can help children choose books at an appropriate reading level that are challenging without being frustrating, ensuring that children can pass the quiz and experience success.

Home/School Reading

At Mayfield, we recognise the vital role that parents play in the development of early reading skills therefore workshops are held so that parents are able to ensure they are supporting their children in the best possible way to develop their reading.

Every child in our school has a reading book which is read in school and taken home to share with parents and carers.

A home –school reading record is used to encourage home- school links. Our school encourages that parents read with their child every day and that they record this in their child's reading record.

Library book scheme

All children from Nursery and Reception take home a library book to supplement their home reading book and to encourage them to read from a range of books. Each class has a reading area which has many quality books for children to choose from.

Reading Challenge

Last year, we introduced the Mayfield Reading Challenge. This is a challenge whereby we encourage our parents and children to read together every night. When the children reach certain milestones, they are rewarded with medals, certificates, trophies and trips out. Getting children interested in books from a young age is essential for them to develop a keen interest in reading. Sharing books with parents, especially at bedtime, is a key way we can promote this.

Reading Café

Our reading café is an opportunity for children and someone important in their lives, to come and share a book together.

As many of our libraries are closing, there is not the great opportunity for children to read or borrow books just for pleasure. Here at Mayfield, we would like to give them that chance to spend a short amount of time, looking through some books, reading them and sharing a nice social time together.

School Visits and Visitors

We have been visited by local authors who have led story telling sessions with the children. Similarly, visiting actors and poets have been into school and have brought the written word to life through visually stimulating presentations and performances for our children – all of which help us to promote a love of books and story- telling! Every year, Year 6 children take part in the Children's Shakespeare project, bringing to life the works of Shakespeare on stage at the Oldham Coliseum.