

Reading: A Guide for Parents and Carers

Reading is an integral part of our English Curriculum at Swallowfield. It underpins access to the whole curriculum and helps children to develop a love of literature. Fluent reading is an essential skill for life that also helps to build confidence in all areas of learning.



How do we teach reading at Swallowfield?

Early Years (Busy Bees and Reception)

In the Early Years, children are provided with access to our Read, Write, Inc scheme of Phonics. They are given an opportunity to recognize sounds and link them to the specific letters. Books and other literacy materials are accessible throughout the entire Early Years Setting and stories, songs and poems are shared on a daily basis. This is extended into the Reception stage where children are taught how to read and blend sounds using the Read Write Inc scheme of Phonics and increase their reading fluency by reading with an adult. This also aids in their understanding of texts.

Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2)

In years 1 and 2, the children still have access to Read, Write, Inc with a daily Phonics session. The focus is on recognizing and blending sounds and then using these sounds in age appropriate texts. There is also a focus on using the correct spelling for certain sounds. Children in Key Stage One have a Guided Reading session once a week with an adult where there is a focus on Reading Comprehension. This also allows the children to read in group and discuss their ideas with their peers.

Key Stage Two (Years 3,4,5 and 6)

Children in Key Stage Two continue to have a Guided Reading session once a week to allow for discussion and questioning. Age appropriate and subject related texts are explored in English lessons with the opportunity to link what they have read with their written work. The teaching is planned so that children revisit reading skills and build on their existing knowledge.

How can you support your child at home?

- Have a small selection of reading materials readily available at home. Books, comics, Bug Club
- Make reading part of your daily life, whether it be sharing a book with your child, reading a story at bed time or recognizing letters and words when you are out and about.
- If doing some focused reading practice, encourage your child to answer questions about what they have read. There is a document on our website to help.
- Focus on reading for enjoyment and praising effort; rather than perfection!

Additional Materials

If you would like more information about how we teach handwriting at Swallowfield, please visit our website. <https://swallowfieldlowerschool.co.uk/english/> Alternatively, please speak to your child's class teacher or Miss Harding (Reading Leader).

More information about the Read, Write Inc Scheme and how to help your child at home can also be found at <https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents-copy-2/>