

Parent Partnerships

We aim to provide information that will help you to develop your child's education. You play a crucial role in helping your children learn. Children achieve more when schools and parents work together in partnership.



Reading

Reading is crucial to your child's development and reading with children every day and talking to them about a wide variety of books helps them to develop a love of books and a varied vocabulary.

Things you can do to Support your child at home.

- Look at the book first, talking about what you can see happening in the pictures.
- Try to predict the story and possible unknown words.
- The pictures are a really important tool to help the children read. Please do not cover them up. If your child is becoming too reliant on the pictures, encourage them to point to the words to draw their attention back to the text.
- Your child will know how to blend sounds when reading. However, words such as was are a little trickier as sounding them out does not work. The children just need to learn how they look.
- When children are confident readers, try not to get hung up on an unknown word. You could miss the word out, read on, then go back and work out the missing word. Read the whole sentence again to check that it makes sense.
- Look out for words they already know within longer words eg: dustbin.
- Remind children to think about how speech might be said to encourage them to read with expression. Punctuation helps your child to read with intonation and brings a book to life.
- **Question** your child about events in the book to check that they have understood what they are reading.

Key Questions to Support Reading

Recall Questions

- Where does the story take place?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find. . .?

Simple comprehension questions

- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might this mean?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- What words and / or phrases do this?
- What part of the story do you like best?



Evidence questions

- What makes you think that?
- How do you feel about. . .?
- Which words give that impression?
- Can you explain why.?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?
- Can you find some adjectives the author has used?

Opinion questions

- What is your opinion of this book and what evidence do you have to support your view?
- Given what you know about?. what do you think (he would have done)?

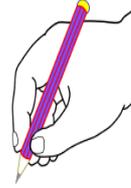
Writing

Supporting your child with writing can be essential to their success. They should be able to form individual letters correctly, so establishing good handwriting habits from the beginning.

Once again the best way to get better at writing is to practise it by writing in meaningful situations with real purpose.

Encourage your child to write:

- birthday cards
- shopping lists
- Letters to relatives and friends
- instructions for games they have made up or models they have made out of lego etc.
- book or film reviews
- keep a diary when they do interesting things



Ensure handwriting is correctly formed and legible. Encourage correct pencil grip to help them write with ease. Encourage children to sound out simple words, look for patterns in more complicated sets of words and eventually learn and apply spelling rules that they have encountered.

- Can form lower case letters and capital letters correctly.
- Can write for different purposes.
- Can write using correct punctuation, including capital letter, full stops, question marks, commas for lists, semi colons, colons, dashes, hyphens, apostrophes for contracted forms (eg I'm, we're) and possession (Mum's car).
- Can re-read my work to make sure it makes sense.
- Can join sentences using 'and', 'but' and 'or'.
- Can expand sentences using 'because', 'when', 'if', 'that' and 'or'.
- Can add more detail to describe and specify, eg the bright, green caterpillar.
- Developed a positive attitude and stamina for writing a range of texts
- Can add suffixes to spell longer words including sment, -ness, -ful, - less, -ly