



# HOME READING POLICY

# **Home Reading Policy for St Mary's C.E. School**

<b>Agreed by the Governing Body:</b>	November 2022
<b>Date for review:</b>	November 2025

## HOME READING POLICY

### Our aims are:

- To encourage children to read
- To provide extra opportunities for reading
- To promote a love of reading
- To provide opportunities for parents/carers to share books with their children
- To help parents/carers understand the process of learning to read.

### 1 Expectations for reading at home

Reading is fundamental to the learning that occurs during people's lives. Children who are confident and accurate readers are able to access the full school curriculum. Reading also offers opportunity for leisure and relaxation. We see the experience of reading at home as providing:

- A positive link between home and school
- A form of learning as well as relaxation
- A chance to reinforce phonics and spellings rules taught at school as words are read
- An extra opportunity for children to experience a wealth of books and stories, broadening their cultural capital
- The chance to establish a 'good' habit that may remain with the children throughout their lives.

### 2 Home reading procedure

A workshop is held annually during the autumn term for parents/carers of children in Early Years (Reception) and Year 1. During these meetings, good practice is explained and parents/carers can view resources and ask questions. Parents new to school in later years will have our home reading procedures explained by class teachers.

### 3 Home reading development

- Children begin to take books home from the autumn term in the Reception year.
- Children are encouraged to read at home every day.
- In Reception and Key Stage 1, children are sent home with one reading scheme book per week which is carefully chosen to match each child's phonetic learning progression. (Keeping to one book a week allows quality time to explore pictures, decode, explore new vocabulary, predict, explain, retell and develop fluency then confidence and expression.) An additional library book is sent home each week to encourage a love of reading.
- Throughout Key Stage 2, children are expected to read at home each day. Every child will have a book from the school's reading scheme which they should read regularly. Reading scheme books continue to be used so that each pupil continues to have reading material carefully pitched to meet their needs.
- Children are given a '*Reading Record*' book at the beginning of the year in Years 1 - 6 where they record their progress; this is done on Tapestry for children in Reception. Parents/carers of younger children are asked to

add comments in reading records; older children are able to do this themselves. (Reading records have prompts for adults to support questioning.)

- Parents/carers can approach the class teachers with any concerns about their child's reading.
- Children should bring their book to school daily to be available for reading.

#### **4 Resources**

Children may read:

- A variety of books provided by the school including those on the Reading Scheme (either *Ransom Reading Stars* for books matched to children's phonics knowledge or *Big Cat Collins*)
- A book from home
- A school library book
- A book from a local library
- Magazines, comics, newspapers and other reading materials
- Kindles.

Children are encouraged to treat books with care and to carry books in a school bag or folder in order to protect them. All school books should be returned to school.

#### **5 Expectations of children**

- To take good care of and appreciate all books
- When capable, to record their progress and opinions on the books they read
- To remember to bring their reading book and Reading Record to school each day.

#### **6 Expectations of Teachers**

- To foster a love of reading
- To establish a reading culture and promote links with the wider community
- To check Reading Records regularly to monitor reading at home
- To encourage and support children and parents/carers who have difficulties establishing a home reading habit
- To celebrate achievements and share children's enjoyment of reading
- To offer advice and guidance where necessary.

#### **Equalities Statement**

St Mary's positively celebrates diversity and inclusion is core to its Christian ethos. The Governing Body recognises that no one should receive less favourable unlawful treatment than another on the grounds of gender, marital or civil partnership status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, religious beliefs, age, or sexual orientation. It is the Governors' aim that no-one at the School should suffer unlawful direct or indirect discrimination, victimisation or harassment on any of these grounds. The Governing Body is committed to embedding fairness and equality at the heart of the school community, and in all aspects of the school's policies, procedures and practices.