

Holy Family RC Primary School: Reading

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us,”

Romans 15:4

<p>Aim</p>	<p>“Reading is fundamental to education. Proficiency in reading, writing and spoken language is vital for pupils’ success. Through these, they develop communication skills for education.” DFE 2022</p> <p>Reading is a fundamental life skill and lends itself wholly across the curriculum. At Holy Family we help pupils understand the richness of reading and how it can open the gate way to all other subjects. Our aim is to encourage pupils to value the power of reading and to understand how it can provide opportunities in real life.</p> <p>Our aim at Holy Family, is to motivate and inspire pupils through the reading of high quality texts and by sharing our own love of reading. We expect our pupils to become competent readers by engaging and immersing themselves into the texts through empathy, understanding and passion. We do this by providing the pupils with strong foundations in phonics and reading skills that take it beyond the literal into the deeper skills of deduction and inference. Finally, we aim for our pupils to be good communicators so they succeed in the future. We do this in Reading through the exploration of language and its use.</p>
<p>Overview</p>	<p>Our curriculum is aligned with the National Curriculum for English, ensuring that students develop key reading skills and strategies as they progress through the primary years. We prioritize the teaching of phonics, providing systematic and explicit instruction to establish strong foundations in decoding and word recognition. Additionally, we promote the development of fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and critical thinking skills through a variety of engaging reading experiences. Our curriculum incorporates both fiction and non-fiction texts, exposing students to different genres, cultures, and perspectives to broaden their literary horizons and develop a well-rounded understanding of the written word.</p>
<p>Implementation</p>	<p>Reading at Holy Family, follows a structured and systematic approach to reading, starting from the Early Years and continuing throughout Key Stages 1 and 2. Phonics forms a key component, with schools using Little Wandle to systematically teach children the relationship between sounds and letters to develop decoding and blending skills. This enables students to read fluently and accurately, building a strong foundation for comprehension.</p> <p>In addition to phonics, pupils experience reading comprehension, with a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to explore and analyse. Teachers employ various teaching strategies to develop students' comprehension skills, including guided reading sessions, shared reading experiences, and explicit instruction in reading strategies such as predicting, questioning, and summarizing. Pupils are encouraged to engage critically with texts, fostering deep comprehension, analytical thinking, and the ability to evaluate and make connections.)</p>
<p>EYFS</p>	<p>In the early years, we prioritize the teaching of phonics as a systematic and structured approach to help children decode and blend sounds. We provide interactive and multisensory experiences that enable children to develop phonemic awareness, letter-sound correspondence, and early reading fluency. Additionally, we foster a love for reading through storytelling, interactive read-alouds, and access to a range of age-appropriate books and resources. We create a print-rich environment that encourages children to explore, handle, and engage with written materials, supporting their emergent literacy skills and nurturing their enthusiasm for reading. Through a combination of play-based activities, phonics instruction, and exposure to a rich variety of texts, we lay a solid foundation for key stage 1.</p>
<p>KSI</p>	<p>In Key Stage 1, we continue to emphasize the importance of phonics instruction as a key component of early reading development. Our structured and systematic phonics program enables children to further enhance their decoding and blending skills, expanding their reading fluency and confidence. Alongside phonics, we expose students to a diverse range of fiction and non-fiction texts, encouraging them to explore different genres, authors, and themes. We focus on developing reading</p>

	<p>comprehension strategies, helping children to understand, interpret, and analyse texts, while encouraging them to express their thoughts and opinions through discussions and written responses.</p> <p>By fostering a positive reading culture, providing targeted support, and offering a variety of reading opportunities, we strive to ensure that every child in Key Stage 1 becomes a proficient reader.</p>
KS2	<p>Reading in Key Stage 2 builds upon the strong foundation laid in earlier years, nurturing students' reading abilities and fostering a deeper engagement with a wide range of texts. We continue to develop students' phonics knowledge and decoding skills while expanding their vocabulary and reading fluency. We expose them to a diverse selection of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, encouraging them to explore various genres, styles, and authors. Our curriculum places a strong emphasis on reading comprehension, enabling students to delve deeper into texts, extract meaning, and make connections. We guide them in developing effective reading strategies, such as inference, deduction, and evaluation, to enhance their understanding and engagement with the written word.</p>
Impact	<p>Reading plays a crucial role in preparing pupils for Key Stage 3. When pupils leave us they are confident readers who have the ability to comprehend complex texts, extract information, and analyse content across various subject areas. They recognise the importance of reading in life. By providing a rich reading environment, targeted support, and nurturing a passion for reading and books, pupils are well-prepared to tackle the challenges of Key Stage 3 and continue their educational journey with enthusiasm, curiosity, and a lifelong appreciation for reading. Our pupils leave us with the will to read.</p>