



Together we can, with Christ by our side
English Reading



‘Once you learn to read, you will be forever free’. — Frederick Douglass

Intent

At St. Joseph’s, we recognise the importance of taking a consistent whole federation approach to the teaching of both word reading and comprehension. We have designed a reading offer to suit our school and our children’s needs. We value the love of reading and see it as the foundation to children’s lifelong academic success.

We commit to ensuring our curriculum immerses the children in Inclusive high quality and vocabulary rich texts, that reflect the school community, the world around them and the diversity of their lived experiences. We expect all children to become fluent, confident readers who enjoy their reading journey with us at St. Joseph’s and beyond. By the time our pupils leave, we envisage that they will be competent readers who fondly recall the books they have shared and discussed. Children will be able to recommend books to their peers, seek out books from a range of different genres. dual languages and cultures which include poetry.

Implementation

Reading is prioritised across the school and it is underpinned by a coherent and systematic phonics scheme which is taught daily, embedded within a reading-rich culture, which includes the development of language and reading for pleasure. All teaching staff have received high quality training in teaching phonics and teaching reading skills. The opportunity to share good practice and to ensure consistency of the same high standards is met across the key stages as it is planned into the staff’s CPD. Reading presents itself through story time, reading lessons, literacy lessons, reading competitions, poetry, singing time, and phonics sessions. Any children who are identified as having any gaps in their phonic knowledge receive further 1:1 intervention targeted to their need.

Impact

We aim for all children to see reading as a cause for celebration, therefore we host regular events such as World book days, competitions and library visits. Children will develop skills and knowledge that will enable them to enjoy reading and writing as well as enabling them to communicate effectively and creatively with the world at large. Children leave St. Josephs having developed their skills within the spoken language, their vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and spelling. These skills are taught across the curriculum as well as in focused English, guided reading and phonics sessions. Joseph’s children have many exciting opportunities to extend their skills and understanding in reading such as author visits, participating in theatre workshops, and entering a wide range of competitions, performance poetry competition and World Book Day.