

ASHFORD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



“The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you’ll go.”
-Dr. Seuss

Supporting your Child with Reading

Introduction

Reading is an important skill which aids learning in all curriculum areas. At ACE we are dedicated to ensuring all children enjoy reading as well as become confident readers. We understand the importance of creating parent partnership and have included in this booklet some information about how we teach reading in school and how you can support reading at home.



Why read?

Sharing books and stories with your child is fun! It is a great way to build special memories and moments and can easily become a favourite part of the day.

It also helps children:

- Understand the world around them.
- Develop social and emotional skills.
- Improve at school in English, science, maths and other subjects.
- Build confidence with communication.
- Strengthen their bond with you and other family members.



How do children learn to read?

Retell a story using pictures

Phonological awareness: This is the ability to listen to and recognise sounds in spoken language – e.g.: to identify that cat starts with c and book starts with b.

Oral blending: Listen to someone saying the sounds in a word. Can you work out what the word is?

Letter recognition: This is being able to recognise letters by shape and sound.

Blending: This is having the ability to merge sounds together to read words.

Our Reading Scheme

Our reading scheme is a colour based, progressive scheme incorporating books from the Oxford Reading Tree. Higher up the school children can have access to a range of classic children's literature and quality books both in fiction and non – fiction, which come from a variety of different schemes.

The Oxford reading tree scheme supports children by:

- Providing a great number of books to choose from.
- Having a choice of material to practice and rehearse as well as challenge and extend reading skills within each level.
- A variety of characters and types of books develops a true reader.
- The variety enables children to find stories they enjoy.

Teaching strategies we use at ACE to support reading



- Keeping records of children's achievements in guided reading sessions.
- Value books and show an interest in them by setting a personal example.
- Hearing children read, share books with children on a regular basis.
- Having skills to recall stories orally using intonation and expression.
- Reading opportunities in all curriculum areas and in daily routines and activities, as an integral part of the school day.
- Giving the freedom to children to change their school reading books on a regular basis.
- Daily phonics for reception, year 1, 2 and 3.

Reading records

Comments from parents are needed to let the class teacher know how a child is getting on with reading at home. Here are some suggestions of what you could comment on:

- Did the child enjoy the book?
- Can the child remember the story?
- Is the child reading the text or just using pictures for clues?
- Does the child understand the meaning of the text or are they just decoding the words?
- Is the child confident to attempt new words?
- Does the child recognise their mistakes and self-correct?
- Does the child recognise many key words?
- Is the child aware of punctuation?
- Is the child reading with expression?
- How long is the child able to sustain reading?

Ideas to support the process of reading at home

Reception and Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
<i>Sing nursery rhymes and songs</i> <i>Play rhyming games</i> <i>Play with magnetic letters</i> <i>Use physical responses such as clapping and tapping to demonstrate patterns in song, stories and words</i> <i>Separate words into separate sounds.</i> <i>Make up your own stories.</i> <i>Dressing up and role play.</i> <i>I Spy games.</i>	<i>Allow your child access to books</i> <i>Make time to listen to your child read</i> <i>Share and read books together</i> <i>Add sound effects when reading</i> <i>Talk about the contents of books</i> <i>Re-read favourite books</i> <i>Encourage self-belief</i> <i>Encourage by example</i> <i>Visit libraries and book shops</i> <i>Allow your child to choose books for themselves</i> <i>Watch stories online</i>

Useful questions to support and extend reading at home

- What is the title?
- Who is the author? Illustrator?
- What kind of book is it? (fiction/ non-fiction/ poetry etc)
- Can you tell anything about the book before you start reading? How do you know?
 - What has happened so far?
- What do you think might happen next? Why?
 - How would you like the story to end?
 - Where is the story set?
 - Who are the characters?

Advice if reading becomes a challenge at home

- Try to avoid confrontation
- Offer a different reading material (e.g. magazine, comics, cereal box in the morning)
- Encourage reading at different times of the day/week
- Buy/borrow books on itunes/ audible/kindle to listen or read together
- Share books with children, read aloud to them, enjoy positive attitude
- Share the problem with your child's teacher!

