

Our Vision for Reading

First and foremost, we want all our children to be able to read fluently.

A child's reading skills are vital to their success in school as they will allow them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their communication and language skills. Additionally, reading can be an enjoyable and imaginative time for children, which can open doors to all kinds of new worlds for them. Through reading, children have the opportunity to develop culturally, socially and emotionally as well as reaping the benefits academically.

We endeavour to develop a love of reading Right from the start of their learning journey, children are read to daily. High quality texts are carefully chosen to complement the wider curriculum, and these are explored together during English and reading lessons.

READING

Early Reading and Phonics

In EYFS and KS1, we use Little Wandle Letters and Sounds to teach phonics. Children read books that carefully match the sounds they have learnt three times a week with a trained adult, then these books are sent home to be read with parents and carers at home.

What Reading Looks like at Shotley Bridge

At SBPS, we have a structured approach to teaching reading.

In EYFS and Year 1, children are taught daily phonics lessons for 20-30 minutes. In addition to this, the children read three times a week to an adult in small groups.

From Year 2, reading is taught within English lessons and in whole class reading sessions, which take place four times a week for 30 minutes. In these sessions, reading is taught through carefully selected texts using the VIPERS strands.



Reading for Pleasure

We believe all children have the potential to develop a love of reading. To promote reading for pleasure, all children are read to in daily storytime sessions. These books are carefully selected to inspire the children through diverse story that celebrate different cultures. Classroom reading areas are designed to be comfortable and relaxed so that the children can get lost in their books.

All children have access to a wide range of high quality literature in the school libraries. In SBPS, we have invested in reading resources that the children will want to read and re-read. Reading is promoted by staff who are excellent role models and lead by example.

We celebrate reading by organising events such as termly reading cafes, author visits and dedicated days in school, such as



What our children Say

Storytime is my favourite part of the day because I like listening to my teacher read me stories. - **Age 6**

I love going to the library and choosing a book every week. We have lots of books in the library.— **Age 9**

In phonics lessons we learn lots of new sounds. — **Age 5**

It is great in reading lessons when we can talk about our favourite books and characters.— **Age 11**

Home Reading

We acknowledge and value the important role played by the family in supporting children's reading development by reading to them and listening to them read. Alongside a book to share with an adult, carefully matched books are taken home on a daily basis along with a reading record so that children can be heard reading and a comment (even a brief one) can be made. Children should read and a comment should be written in their reading records at least 3 times a week.