



Reading at Eden Park Academy

Reading is a vital life skill and we are passionate about encouraging our children to become enthusiastic and reflective readers. Through contact with interesting, high quality texts, we aim to develop both reading for pleasure and reading comprehension.

Reading Aims

- Provide rich, simulating and high-quality reading environments
- Enable pupils to read with confidence, fluency, accuracy and understanding
- Foster an enthusiasm and passion for reading
- Develop pupil's comprehension skills of inference and deduction
- Ensure pupils make good progress in reading

Reading in Bluebirds Foundation Unit

Reading opens a world of imagination and possibility to our children and we aim to develop not only the skills to make them avid readers but the enthusiasm to last a lifetime. Reading begins the moment our children enter the Wrens room at two. They experience hearing stories read to them both individually and as a group. Children hear a varied vocabulary to support language development and story and nonfiction books are chosen carefully both to reflect language needs and to develop interest and enthusiasm. Staff use language and speaking and listening games from a variety of sources including Phase 1 of 'Letters and Sounds'. Throughout Sparrows and Wrens children take books home from the class lending library. This supports parents in sharing books at home. The Book start programme takes place on an annual basis.

Once the children enter Nursery 'Letters and Sounds' is used on a more systematic basis. Children continue to experience activities from the latter stages of Phase 1, to develop pre reading skills and then begin Phase 2 in the late Spring Term. In the Reception class the children complete Phase 2, move through Phase 3 and begin Phase 4. Reading is supported through a daily phonics lesson as well as numerous opportunities to develop understanding and prediction, as well as learning how to use contextual cues. Children read in groups and individually and there is a daily ten minute reading time as well as adult led reading groups.

We use a variety of schemes including Bug Club, Oxford Reading Tree, Dandelion and Big Cat books. Parents are encouraged to complete a reading diary and meetings are held annually to support parents in understanding how we teach reading at Eden Park. There are also more informal opportunities to promote reading through events such as the termly 'Stay and Play' sessions and at 'Book at Bedtime'.

Each morning begins with half an hour of reading time. This allows the children to continue reading their carefully selected texts. Teachers will often direct pupils to authors that will meet their interests or similar authors/styles they will enjoy. This ensures that the children will have a rich and varied diet of texts including fiction, non-fiction, newspapers and poetry.

During this time, teachers or teaching assistants work 1:1 with pupils to:

- Teach reading strategies (e.g. segmenting and blending, chunking)
- Provide a context for the teacher to teach high frequency words, decoding skills, use of clues (picture and textual) and to support prediction.
- Provide opportunity to practise reading skills
- Support pupils in developing and applying their comprehension skills
- Monitor and record evidence of pupil's application of reading skills
- Select texts that provide pupils with a range of reading materials which engage and challenge the pupil at their appropriate reading level.

Shared Whole Class Reading

This is the opportunity to share texts with the children that they would not normally access or be able to interpret on their own. The reading skills taught in the shared reading session are usually appropriate to the age of the children rather than their reading ability. However, we ensure that children of all reading abilities will be able to engage with the text.

The children begin by becoming fully immersed in the text, they read alongside the teacher who will have modelled the correct way to emphasise the language and punctuation. The teacher's role is to immerse the children to provoke response, extend the children's replies and encourage critique. Comprehension is developed through lots of talk, the exchange of ideas and is then followed up by appropriate activities. We delve heavily into the vocabulary of each piece and make sure that throughout the year we use a wide range of texts.

Areas that we look at during shared reading;

- reading for enjoyment
- defining and understanding vocabulary and then developing this into different contexts
- understanding the text
- questioning characters, facts, the author
- retrieving information and ideas
- interpreting what the author is saying
- responding, personal responses
- author's style, use of language and viewpoint

- structure and organisation of the text
- purpose and audience of the text
- making links to other texts, themes, times and cultures
- how the author's techniques can inform the children's writing
- text is explored with a particular focus informed by the objective
- all children are included through strong, varied and differentiated questioning
- children are supported in learning how to articulate their responses, interpretation and analysis of what they read.

Our shared reading sessions are carefully interwoven with our vocabulary and English teaching. This allows the children to make concrete links and transfer their skills across the curriculum.

We recognise and strive to motivate the children with reading rewards. This can vary from credits to receiving book tokens for reading trilogies. If prizes are given in the school these will often be books for the children to keep and share at home.

Each day ends with a sustained class read from the class teacher. This will be an ambitious text that challenges the children's thinking, allows for questions and further exploration of vocabulary.

The promotion of reading is prominent at Eden Park Academy. As you enter you will see texts that have ignited English learning, a vast and inviting Library, imaginative book corners with texts that tempt and buzz of conversations around reading.

"The world belongs to those who read."

Rick Holland

L Marshall Autumn 2018

