

Our approach to Reading

At Trent Young's CE School, we value reading as a key life skill, and are dedicated to enabling our children to become lifelong readers. We believe reading is key for academic success and so to ensure we have a holistic approach to the teaching of reading, we implement the following:

- Children take part in daily reading lessons, where they are exposed to a range of different texts and can demonstrate their understanding and have opportunities to hypothesise and predict, explain and think with increasing depth about the subject matter and the author's intent.
- We have a wide range of reading books in our school. All children from Reception to Year 6 are invited to choose a book to take home: this can be a book to share with an adult and/or a reading book (depending on the age and readiness of the child). This book is changed frequently.
- Children are read to by their class teacher. This could be a book that the teacher recommends to the class, a recommendation from a child or the class shared book.
- Children have the opportunity to share a book or discuss their favourite books with other children in their class.
- All children have an appropriate reading book for their ability, skills, comprehension and age. In EYFS and KS1 all children will have a reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for the child and they should be able to read this fluently and independently. This book has been carefully matched to each child's current reading level and is an opportunity for children to celebrate their reading success at home.
- More advanced or fluent Year 2 readers and KS2 children will choose texts from the colour banded system in our library which have a range of text types, genres and authors to engage all readers. These have been banded according to complexity of the content (both sentence structure and vocabulary), subject matter, reading stamina needed to finish reading the book and engage with the text, and size of the font .

By the time children leave Trent Young's CE School they will be competent readers who can recommend books to their peers, have a thirst for reading a range of genres and participate in discussions about books, including evaluating an author's use of language and the impact this can have on the reader. Children will also understand the 'bigger picture' for reading and will apply these skills across the curriculum and daily life as they read to learn.

At Trent Young's CE School, Reception children and those in years 1 and 2 follow the synthetic phonics programme Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised . Little Wandle is a phonics resource which is approved by the Department for Education and Skills and which aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. Little Wandle has extensively revised 'Letters and Sounds' to provide a complete teaching programme which is fully resourced and sets expectations of progression that are aspirational yet achievable for every child. We work through the entire Little Wandle Programme until each child can successfully utilise their phonic knowledge and blending skills to read fluently. Children need to learn to read as quickly as reasonably possible, so they can move from learning to read, to reading to learn, giving them access to the treasure house of reading. This way, children can focus on developing their fluency and comprehension as they move through the school. As part of this, children have daily phonics sessions in their year groups where they participate in speaking, listening and spelling activities that are matched to their developing needs. The teachers draw upon observations and continuous assessment to ensure children are supported and challenged. Children work through the phases, learning and developing their phonics sounds and knowledge.

At Trent Young's CE School we firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the classroom. We give all children the opportunity to enter the magical worlds that books open up to them. We promote reading for pleasure and reading to learn as part of our curriculum offer. Children are encouraged to develop their own love of genres and authors and to review their books objectively. This enhances a deep love of literature across a range of genres, cultures and styles.