



## **Reading at Condover CE Primary School**

### **Intent**

As a child grows up, being able to read well not only enables them to discover new facts and to learn at school, but also opens them up to a world of new ideas, stories and opportunities. As such, all our staff are committed to ensuring that all children become independent and fluent readers during their time at our school.

At Condover CE Primary School, we aim for all pupils to develop confidence and enjoyment in reading at both word-level and through a variety of rich and engaging comprehension-based questions and challenges.

We believe that children succeed when they are inspired to read. To achieve this, children listen to an adult reading to them daily; by giving children opportunities to explore a range of rich and appropriately challenging texts; and by providing a variety of reading activities to promote understanding. They will succeed in reading accurately and fluently; responding critically to each text they read; and discussing texts with confidence. Reading is at the heart of the curriculum, by ensuring that children develop a love of reading and an ability to read accurately, fluently and critically, children will also succeed in developing their skills in Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar.

From early decodable readers to chapter books, these books support a journey from phonics to fluency, with levelled readers that systematically increase the level of challenge, vocabulary, and stamina as children work up through the bands so that all children can succeed. Authors, illustrators, genres, subject matter and formats are all carefully chosen to appeal to children and provide a wide-range of reading experiences allowing our children at Condover CE Primary School to explore this range of texts with resilience and confidence.

### **Implementation**

Our structured approach to reading is carefully designed to ensure the best results for our children. It all begins with a focus on phonics. The scheme of work that we use to teach phonics across Reception and Year 1 is 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised'. By using this rigorous and systematic programme, the children's sound knowledge is built upon gradually and progressively, with lots of repetition, in order to aid them on their reading journey.

In subsequent year groups throughout the school, our children will continue developing their skills in reading at word-level by unpicking unfamiliar vocabulary. We also aim for our children to explore reading through independent reading, whole-class guided reading, and shared reading.



All staff at Condover CE Primary School are committed in ensuring that all children in Year 2 onwards can read fluently and with good pace. Therefore, as well as encouraging our learners to choose a book that they can read for pleasure, it is imperative that they are also choosing a relevant book banded book that supports them in their own personal development of reading. Teachers will track these children's development in reading closely to help them to make progress and find success.

We work on developing understanding of text, background knowledge, vocabulary and comprehension skills through structured whole class guided reading sessions. Activities are carefully planned to ensure that reading stamina also develops as children progress through the school. In addition to this, our class texts ensure that all our pupils are exposed to high quality challenging texts. Immersion in more sophisticated vocabulary, will undoubtedly help them to build their own vocabulary that will be wider, challenging and more specific.

To ensure the best outcome for all our pupils, assessment is used continuously to identify any child who is in danger of falling behind. Targeted interventions are used to help these children 'keep up' and their progress is carefully monitored by class teachers and school leaders.

All staff are involved in our pupils' reading. Staff share and discuss their love of reading in class and assemblies. Even Mabel, our school dog, is involved in promoting reading. Mabel allows children to relax and gain confidence in reading aloud.

Our children's love of reading is fostered through access to a wide range of stories, poems and non-fiction books and carefully selected whole class readers. Books are used in all areas of the curriculum to help teach specific projects, as well as broadening children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural awareness.

We foster a love of reading by promoting age-appropriate, quality texts to each year group to support the children in finding their next adventure. We endeavour to keep our class libraries updated with the latest novels to support children and their families in selecting these books. We work hard to ensure this joy of reading extends beyond the classroom and supports, promotes and values the contributions that parents and carers make to their child's reading at home.

Children enjoy taking part in the Shrewsbury Children's Bookfest each year. Author and storyteller visits are organised to further enhance fostering a love of books. A highlight of our year is World Book Day, when we celebrate our love of reading. Author visits also enhance fostering a love of reading.

### **Impact**



Our children will have developed a passion for reading, both for pleasure and for learning, enabling them to be able to read accurately, fluently and critically. They will have the ability to unpick key vocabulary, allowing opportunities to access, engage and foster a deeper understanding within all areas of the curriculum.

Our children will have developed a wider understanding of the world around them through the exposure of a variety of diverse texts, allowing them to explore and challenge their own opinions and beliefs.

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