



Ashwood Spencer Academy

Reading is highly valued at Ashwood Spencer Academy because it is a vital skill and a wonderful source of pleasure- it not only provides us with new knowledge and vocabulary but also has the power to inspire us .

'There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book.' Professor Frank Serafini

Summary

The Ashwood Approach to Reading and Phonics ensures that children develop the technical reading skills they need in order to become successful, enthusiastic readers. We use Little Wandle Letters and Sounds which means the teaching of phonics and reading are closely linked.

How do we teach phonics and reading?

Reception and Year 1:

Whole class phonics is taught every day and is supplemented by 'keep up' groups to ensure all children are able to access age appropriate learning.

Once children begin to blend, they read in a group with an adult 3 times a week. They use the same book for all 3 sessions which focus on decoding, prosody and comprehension in turn. Books only contain phonemes that the children have already learnt.

Reception and Year 1:

Children take home a fully decodable phonics reading book and a reading for pleasure book every week.

We include reading a poem or singing a song together in our daily practice.

Reading and Phonics The Ashwood Approach EYFS and Year 1

Phonics in Year 2 and KS2

Any children who continue to need support to secure their phonics knowledge and understanding will take part in timetabled intervention groups.

Assessments take place at the start and end of a block of intervention sessions in order to monitor progress.

Reading for Pleasure

- ◆ Our children love story time at the end of every day
- ◆ We have a dedicated reading area on the playground
- ◆ Our accessible and well-stocked library offers children a wide range of books to choose from. Library sessions are timetabled across the school
- ◆ Classrooms include an inviting reading area in which children can select and read a book of their own choice
- ◆ In our English lessons, we use a range of rich literature linked to our creative curriculum and ensure that age appropriate, engaging books are always available in classrooms.
- ◆ For children who prefer e-books, they can access a wide range of texts on our ipads.
- ◆ Reading rewards such as the book vending machine
- ◆ Supporting parents to share books with their children at home

Assessments:

At the start of the year, we baseline children's phonics knowledge. This allows us to organise children into reading groups. Formative assessment is a continual feature of phonics and allows us to ensure children receive extra support as required. Teachers carry out summative assessment of children's phonics every six weeks. A termly summative assessment of reading using PIRA tests enables us to monitor progress in wider reading skills.