

Reading tips for mums, dads and carers



Reading is one of the most valuable and rewarding skills your child will learn. Educational research has shown that children who read regularly at home make more rapid progress in the development of their reading and comprehension skills. Reading regularly with your child not only leads to improvements in school but also improves their speech and communication skills and makes lifelong readers.

We greatly appreciate the time you spend listening to your child read and hope you enjoy it too!



Reading Regularly

- Short but often is key
- Try to build it into your daily routine



Show an interest

- Show them how important reading is by giving them your full attention.
- Ask them questions about what they've read or ask them to quiz you to check you have been listening!
- Record what they have read in their school reading record.

For emerging readers

- Encourage your child to use their finger to point to each word.
- Take turns reading a sentence or page each.
- Don't be afraid to read the same book again! Repeated reading helps build fluency.
- If your child gets stuck on a word, encourage them to use these strategies:
 - ⇒ Sound it out using their phonics
 - ⇒ Look for hidden words within the word
e.g. senTENCE
 - ⇒ Encourage them to be 'story detectives' looking for clues in the pictures and text to help them with challenging words.
 - ⇒ Skip the word, re-read the sentence then go back. What word would make sense?
- Read different types of books together including simple books your child can read independently as well as higher level books your child can just enjoy listening to.

For confident readers

- Start and end a reading session by making predictions. What do you think will happen next?
- Ask your child questions about what they have read throughout their reading:
 - *How might the character be feeling? Why?*
 - *What would you do if you were in the story?*
 - *What is your favourite part of the book? Why?*
 - *What words did the author use to create the picture in your mind?*
 - *Does the book make you think of anything else you have read?*
- Notice interesting, new vocabulary and make it a challenge to use it in conversation.
- Compare and contrast books.
- Remember children don't just have to read books. Webpages, DVD blurbs, signs when out and about and adverts all help too!