

Reading at East Ravensdale Information for parents

At East Ravensdale, we strive to create a reading for pleasure culture and enable our pupils to develop a life-long love of reading. The ability to read fluently and with confidence opens up a whole world of amazing opportunities for our pupils!

We have developed our East Ravensdale Reading Spine alongside our curriculum to ensure that pupils are exposed to a variety of high-quality texts, both through our daily literacy and wider curriculum lessons, and through our class shared reading texts. Our Reading Spine ensures that the books we share with our pupils cover a wide range of genres, including contemporary modern, poetry, non-fiction and archaic texts. This range allows our pupils to become experts in different styles of writing, building their confidence when faced with new text types.



Reading at home

Reading at home and sharing books is a fantastic way to develop your child's reading ability and confidence. As per our half-termly homework tasks, we ask that you listen to your child read three times per week and log this in your child's reading record.

In EYFS and key stage one, pupils are given a phonetically decodable book to practice their reading at home, alongside a sharing book. It is important that pupils read their levelled books as this will allow them to practice the sounds they are learning in school. The sharing book has been chosen by your child and is a book that they are keen to share at home! These books may be too tricky for your child to read at this stage, so we ask that these books are read to them and discussed. Allowing pupils to have choice in what they read will allow them to discover favourite stories, authors and find the fun in reading.

For pupils who have progressed from the phonics programme and in key stage two, we follow a similar approach; pupils will bring home a book matched to their reading level through the Accelerated Reader Star Reader assessment. The assessment will give your child a ZPD (zone of proximal development) and in order to make progress and develop in their reading, pupils will need to read these books at home. They can then take a quiz on their levelled book through the Accelerated Reader website. In addition to their Accelerated Reader book, pupils will also be able

to choose a reading for pleasure book. This book is the one that has caught your child's eye and the one they are keen to read for fun. Like with the EYFS sharing books, these may be too tricky to read independently or even easy for them to read. Allowing pupils the option of a reading for pleasure book removes limitations of only having a levelled book and gives them the opportunity to read for the enjoyment of it!

Techniques for reading with your child and improving expressive fluency

Echo reading

Echo reading is a technique designed to develop expressive, fluent reading. When using the echo reading technique, the adult or confident reader will read a sentence or passage to the learner, using notable fluency and expression. The learner reader then echoes this back, copying the way it was read to them.

Choral reading

Choral reading is reading together at the same time. This can help self-conscious readers feel more comfortable as they are reading alongside another person and alone. When choral reading, the expert reader is able to model the expression and fluency needed to read confidently.

