

Our aim is to give each child the opportunity to develop the skills and understanding to become confident, independent readers who enjoy books.

Early reading skills are developed as high quality books are shared with individuals, groups and whole classes. The concept of print, orientation of the text, sight vocabulary and a range of reading strategies are promoted.

The children have access to a wide variety of reading books which have all been placed in to a graded colour band. As soon as they begin to read texts, beginner readers will encounter 'tricky' words, that is, words that they will find difficult to decode using the phonic knowledge they have learned. As they learn the phonic code and develop their decoding skills, fewer words are 'tricky'. Reading books together at home and school enables them to consolidate their understanding of phonics and recognise the key tricky words by sight.

As the children and their ability to decode is secure, a greater emphasis is placed on the comprehension of the text. Reading for meaning is encouraged in guided reading sessions which focus on specific aspects such as retrieving information from the texts they read, predicting and using inference to deduce meanings. Children are encouraged to comment on the structure and organisation of texts, the language choice of the author and the overall effect of the literary features used.