



Home-School Reading Guidelines – KS2

At Singleton Primary School we acknowledge and value the support of parents in enabling their children to become fluent readers who read for pleasure and enjoyment. Our approach to selecting and changing home reading books in KS2 is slightly different to KS1.

We hope these guidelines clearly explain how we teach reading and how you can support your child's reading at home.

Organisation

The Home Reading Scheme in KS2 is Oxford Reading Tree, which is banded according to reading age, in order to ensure that each child is reading at a level most suitable for them, both in terms of word recognition and comprehension. However, our aim is to develop confidence and competency and move the children off the reading scheme and onto free readers as they progress through the junior department.

Changing books

Once or twice a week (on a day the teacher decides) your child will be given the opportunity to change their home reading book. They will also have access to the school library, from which they can borrow a book. This means they should always have access to at least 2 books each week.

We hope that by allowing pupils to choose a book from the library it will help them develop a love for books and reading.

In Upper Key Stage 2 pupils often read longer books (free readers) which may take more than 1 week to read so they change their book as and when they need to.

Expectations

We would like children to read aloud as often as possible in order to develop their fluency, intonation and expression. It is therefore our expectation that all pupils will read at home at least 3 times a week (Minimum of 10 – 20 minutes)

For children that are still on the Oxford Reading Tree scheme we feel that they should be heard read on a daily basis for 5 – 10 minutes. At home listening to your child read, practices and reinforces what they have learnt at school. There is nothing more important that you can do at home than support your child's reading as this unlocks the whole curriculum for them. A child that cannot read cannot access for example history or geography.

All children have reading records, written in by parents and staff and this is an effective source of communication between home and school. In addition any free reading which the child has completed may be included in the reading record. Please also record anything which you feel is important and wish to share with the class teacher about your child's reading, but also remembering that you can arrange to see the teacher if appropriate.

It is important to stress that racing through the reading levels without regard for comprehension and understanding of the content is not the most effective approach to reading! We encourage parents to take time to discuss the text and help pupils read unfamiliar words. This gives a much clearer understanding of the meaning of a whole text. It is also useful to have at home a dictionary and thesaurus, which the child can access to explore unfamiliar and/or unknown words.

Guided reading and Class based reading

As well as reading being an integral part of the daily Literacy lesson, pupils in KS2 take part in 5 dedicated Guided reading sessions with a teaching assistant or their class teacher. These last for approximately 25 minutes and during the session pupils will read aloud from a class book. Together with reading in other subjects, this means that each child will be heard to read by the class teacher weekly.

We constantly update the books that we use for Guided reading, so that we have coverage of all genres, including both Fiction and Non-Fiction books, classic and recommended books. Often, the pupils love these books so much that it is a favourite part of the school day for many pupils.

Reading and Special Educational Needs

In all KS2 classes, any child with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) which has specific targets for reading will be heard to read by the class teacher, teaching assistant or volunteers more regularly and often from their home-reading book.

If you are not aware of the contents of your child's IEP then please contact your child's class teacher or the SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator – Mrs Haigh).

Please note:

In KS2, most children will be unlikely to read their home-reading book to their class teacher, although pupils read daily in Guided reading sessions or other subjects with the class teacher. This means that by the end of the week all pupils will have read aloud to the teacher. Class teachers also keep a check on the home-reading progress files for each child with their teaching assistant,