**POLICY FOR TEACHING READING**

**OVERVIEW**

The first stage in helping children to become confident readers and enjoy books is teaching them the key skills that they need. Our philosophy will be driven by the determination that virtually every child in this school will learn to read regardless of social and economic circumstances, ethnicity, the language spoken at home and most special educational needs or disabilities.

**INTENT**

1. To achieve very high standards in reading and promote a culture of reading for pleasure.
2. To apply a rigorous and sequential approach to developing speaking and listening and teaching reading, writing and spelling.
3. To have an effective programme for phonics teaching in KS1 and for any children in KS2 who still require phonic support.
4. To have in place diligent, concentrated and systematic teaching of phonics so that it is central to children’s success in learning to read and to support this with a wide range of other strategies for teaching pupils to read.
5. To use high-quality and expert teaching that follows the carefully planned and tightly structured approach to teaching phonic knowledge and other essential reading skills.
6. To provide phonic and reading workshops for parents/careers so that are able to support their children at home in these key skills.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

1. We will use systematic phonics and other appropriate strategies for teaching pupils to read, including guided reading, echo reading, shared reading and independent readers.
2. Pupils will be given opportunities to apply what they have learnt through reading – including time to read aloud to adults to practise their decoding skills.
3. Teachers will be highly trained in the principles of phonics, so that they can identify the learning needs of young children and recognise and overcome the barriers that can impede learning.
4. The curriculum will give children rich opportunities to talk and listen in a wide range of contexts. This will contribute to developing their familiarity with books and stories and their knowledge of the meanings of words.
5. There will be a strong focus on developing the children’s capacity to listen, concentrate and discriminate between sounds.
6. Well-structured resources will be used appropriately, either individually or in combination, to support the teaching programme.
7. Phonics and other teaching strategies will be monitored to ensure consistency and appropriate action will be taken if improvement is called for.
8. The assessment of individual pupils’ progress in reading and their phonic knowledge and skills will be frequent and detailed to identify quickly the pupils who are failing, or in danger of failing, to keep up with their peers.
9. Effective provision for those who are struggling to keep up will be put in place early and there will be high expectations of what all pupils should achieve.
10. Children who are struggling to read will be given individual support which will be carefully attuned to overcoming barriers to their phonological development.
11. Pupils will be encouraged to use our school library to develop a love of reading. Our pupil librarians will promote a range of authors and books to expose our children to high quality texts.
12. We will use reading buddies to encourage the children to read aloud to others and develop their love of reading. This will also develop the children’s knowledge of authors and books.
13. Staff will continue to use the local library and ensure pupils have the opportunity to visit at least once a year.
14. We will encourage parents to share their love of reading through workshops, reading drop-ins and reading competitions.

**IMPACT**

The development of speaking and listening reading and writing will be the top priority for our children. Teaching reading will be the central strategy in developing children’s literacy. They will develop all the key elements of word recognition, decoding, recognising the link between letters and sounds that will leading to understanding of meaning and language comprehension. In this school our ambition will be that all children become confident readers who have a real love of reading. Our rationale is validated by our external and internal assessments in this area.