



## **Reading Intent, Implementation, and Impact Statement**

### **Reading Intent (the What) and Implementation (the How):**

Leaders in our academy prioritise the teaching of reading: word reading and reading comprehension. We aim to ensure that **all** children at Blakesley CE Primary become successful readers.

Reading comprehension develops through pupils' experience of high-quality discussion, as well as from reading a range of stories, poems and non-fiction. All pupils are encouraged to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world they live in, to establish an appreciation and love of reading, and to gain knowledge across the curriculum. We intend that all pupils understand and can articulate what it is to be a 'good reader'.

### **Early Reading (Word Reading):**

To ensure that every child in our academy will learn to read we ensure we:

#### **Use one synthetic phonics programme from YR to Y2:**

We use SoundsWrite to teach phonics and graphic knowledge (common exception words and tricky words). We have fidelity to this one programme.

Using this programme, we are confident that:

- Grapheme/phoneme (letter/sound) correspondences are taught a clearly defined, incremental sequence
- We introduce children very early on to a defined initial group of consonants and vowels, enabling them to read and spell as soon as possible many simple CVC words
- Children are taught the highly important strategy of blending phonemes in order, all through a word, to read it
- Children are taught to apply the skills of segmenting words into their constituent phonemes to spell; blending and segmenting are reversible processes
- Multi-sensory activities used are interesting and engaging but firmly focused on intensifying the learning associated with its phonic goal.

From the first full week of starting school children in EYFS begin letter sound correspondence.

### **We make time to teach phonics:**

Children in EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 have a daily phonics session lasting for around 30 mins. The structure of each follows the Soundswrite principles of Reading sounds in words, writing words, sentence work, time to recap and teach new sounds or words. We ensure enough time and priority are given to fully implement our Phonics programme. However, the teaching extends beyond 'dedicated time' and is applied and reinforced when appropriate throughout the day. The pace of the programme is maintained.

Phonics is taught in year groups with additional adults supporting targeted children. Phonics tracker provides an in depth analysis of attainment which informs teaching and learning provision. Assessment using Phonics Tracker is used with EYFS termly to find gaps in children's Initial Code knowledge. Y1 are assessed on progress towards Phonics Screening pass mark and Extended Code units taught.

If children are not reaching these expectations and keeping up with the pace of our phonics programme we intervene quickly by giving extra support. We give catch up support provided by 1:1 / group intervention. The content of these sessions is determined by on-going gap analyses and our in-depth knowledge of each child. These sessions are additional to our daily phonics sessions.

In order to ensure that pupils 'keep up', the following approach is adopted:

- In the daily phonics lessons (QFT), scaffolding is used to support the lowest attaining pupils
- Consolidation throughout the day of oral blending & segmenting and GPC recognition to revise key aspects that need reinforcement
- Same day in class practice – provision of a short, sharp additional session (5 mins) with a precise focus
- 1-1 precision intervention.

The structure of each phonics lesson is as follows:

- Words for reading
- Words for writing
- Polysyllabic words
- Focus words/CEW or N.C.
- Sentence dictation

**Children practise early reading with fully decodable books:**

Reading books in EYFS and Year 1:

- Are matched to phonic knowledge and do not require use of alternative strategies e.g. whole-word recognition and/or cues from context, grammar, or pictures
- Are closely matched to the programme used
- Are fully decodable at a child's current level and do not simply practise phoneme(s) most recently taught
- Are mixed with non-decodable books for independent reading practice ( exposure)
- Include a controlled, small number of 'tricky words' the decoding of which has been specifically taught
- Continue in progressive sequence until a child can confidently decode words involving most common grapheme representations of all phonemes.
- scaffolding for lower attainers/SEND



Reading books in EYFS and Year 1 match our Soundswrite phonics programme. Children are taught specific phonemes / graphemes and then have access to the equivalent books that reinforce the phonics that have been explicitly taught. They also have access to a specific band of books that they can choose from to take home. These books have been carefully banded to support and reinforce the phonics taught.

Children take these reading books home on a daily basis. SoundsWrite Specific books are changed weekly. Adapted phonics focus books and confidence builder books are changed when the child has finished the book.

**There is effective phonics provision for all children:**

**SoundsWrite** promotes a whole-class approach with scaffolding throughout the lesson and use of other adults as well as same day additional sessions/small group/1-1 intervention. Progress is continually assessed using a simple but effective system. Regular progress meetings are held.

**We build a skilled team who can teach phonics:**

Every member of our staff delivering phonics has accessed in house training by our Phonics Lead or external training (SoundsWrite), including our most experienced staff. For those staff who are providing additional support for our weakest readers, we provide training in the use of SoundsWrite for phonics, PM+ to increase pace and fluency, Fresh Start for Comprehension at KS2 and Toe by Toe for specific needs.

**We have a dedicated Phonics Lead who ensures quality, consistency and continuity of teaching:**

Our Phonics Lead is a teacher with expertise in and direct experience of teaching phonics. Our Phonics Lead has dedicated time to fulfil the role and her responsibilities include monitoring, mentoring and modelling. Consequently, all Phonics teaching is consistent and of high quality.

**Early Reading Impact:**

**We have the expectation that all children will attain or exceed the expected phonics standards.**

Teacher and school expectations are high for all children regardless of background. A 'can-do' ethos permeates all our teaching. There is confidence that teaching the programme will ensure success. Small-steps success is built in and celebrated and all children are continually praised and encouraged.

We expect our children to meet the following milestones in terms of their phonological development through EYFS and Key Stage 1:

**EYFS: Soundswrite**

- End of Autumn Term: Units 1-7 of the Initial Code



- End of Spring Term: Units 8-11 of the Initial Code
- End of Summer Term: Units 1,2 and 4 of Extended Code

### **Year 1: Soundwrite**

- End of Autumn Term: Units 1- 11 of Extended Code
- December: Expected Score on Phonics Screening Check of 20/40
- End of Spring Term: Units 12-22 Of Extended Code
- April: Expected Score on Phonics Screening Check of 30/40
- Summer Term: Units 23-26 of Extended Code:
- May Expected Score on Phonics Screening Check of 34+/40

### **Year 2: Soundwrite**

- Units 27-50

We particularly closely monitor children making the slowest progress. Children in danger of falling behind, or who are working under expected levels (lower 20%), are swiftly identified and enough additional support is provided to enable them to keep up. We give catch up support by providing group interventions. The content of these sessions is determined by on-going gap analyses and our in-depth knowledge of each child. Children experiencing significant difficulty are provided with intensive, individual support to reach the required standard.

The expectation is that all children will have met the Early Learning Goals by the end of EYFS. Furthermore, the expectation is that all children will be fluent readers having secured word recognition skills by the end of key stage one.

### **By the end of Year 2 we expect our children to be skilled at word reading to ensure:**

- the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding); decode most new words outside their spoken vocabulary, making a good approximation to the word's pronunciation
- the speedy recognition of familiar printed words; read books at an age appropriate interest level, accurately and at a reasonable speaking pace
- books at an age appropriate interest level are read at a speed that is sufficient for them to focus on understanding what they read rather than on decoding individual words
- most words are read effortlessly and children are able to work out how to pronounce unfamiliar written words with increasing automaticity.

Decoding fluently and accurately by the end of Year 2 means that no further direct teaching of word reading (with the exception of vocabulary development) should be needed for the majority of children at our school.

**Fluency:**

As a school we recognise that fluency is a crucial part of reading because it builds a bridge between word recognition and comprehension. It allows children time to focus on what the text is saying, and they are able to make connections between what they are reading and their own background knowledge, enabling them to concentrate on comprehension. This is developed through our phonics programme in YR and 1 through repeated reading of the same texts and then continues into our reading model in Y2 and KS2 in shared reading sessions. In addition to teacher modelling of fluent reading, we monitor fluency when listening to children read aloud.

If a child's level of fluency is causing a concern for short periods of time pupils can be placed on an intervention, PM+, which addresses these concerns and improves fluency.

**Reading Comprehension (and Responding to Texts):**

Skilled reading requires accurate, speedy word reading and good language comprehension. We know that our children need to be exposed to a wide range of high quality, engaging and increasingly challenging texts in order to progress as readers. A wide range of high-quality books are read to, and shared with, EYFS, KS1 and KS2 children daily accompanied by frequent discussion of books to increase enjoyment and in turn develop comprehension. The level of challenge increases throughout the year groups through the complexity of texts being read.

It is recognised that reading comprehension relies heavily on knowledge. Our broad curriculum aids reading comprehension by ensuring that children gain the knowledge of the world in which they live and bring such knowledge to their reading. In order to develop and build on their prior knowledge even further, we use immersive experiences, drama and role-play, as well as making meaningful links with other topics and areas of study across the curriculum. Teachers have extensive knowledge of children's books and read aloud with enthusiasm and in engaging ways. Books have high profile around classrooms and the school.

**Reading Teaching Sequence / Model:**

To ensure we have an agreed whole-school approach to the teaching of reading based on a range of research, we use the teaching sequence. This is outlined in detail in the Trust's Overview of the Literacy Teaching Sequence and in supporting guidance documents.

During the first phase of the teaching sequence a range of reading comprehension strategies such as: summarising, imagining, predicting and making connections are taught explicitly. Children are immersed in the text type and are encouraged to 'read as a reader'. Further models are also shared with the children, so they broaden their frame of reference through investigating how other writers tackle the type of writing they are focussing on. This model provides a coherent model for linking and combining literacy knowledge and text-types into effective teaching and learning opportunities.

### **Whole Class Reading**

Children hear, share and discuss a range of high-quality texts through our whole class English teaching, both in terms of fiction and non-fiction. Books, genres, stories and poems are mapped out across Key Stage 1 and 2 to ensure progression and breadth of coverage.

Reading comprehension is supported by practising strategies to uncover meaning in texts. As part of the Literacy teaching sequence we ensure children of all ages practise these strategies and are able to access, explore and respond to increasingly more challenging texts. **As part of the teaching of reading**, we explicitly teach and model the following key reading strategies outlined in the National Curriculum to ensure that children use the strategies which prompt the comprehension process and can apply them effectively in their own reading across the curriculum:

- Using background knowledge to understand text
- Predicting
- Understanding vocabulary: developing strategies for this including recognising which vocabulary they don't understand
- Asking questions and “wondering” about the text
- Visualising
- Developing inference
- Summarising.

Some of the above key reading strategies are also taught through the reading domains approach:

- Vocabulary (and grammar – linguistic knowledge)
- Inference
- Prediction
- Explanation
- Retrieval
- Sequencing (KS1) / Summarising (KS2).

The level of challenge increases throughout the year groups through the complexity of texts being read. Reference to the reading domains appears on planning of the teaching Sequence.

### **Reading Interventions:**

Reading interventions focus on comprehension for those children who can decode fluently but do not understand what they are reading. (Word reading interventions continue in KS2 for children who are continuing to struggle to decode.) All programmes are rigorous and systematic with the intention that these children catch up rapidly with their peers.

As stated previously if a child's level of fluency is causing a concern for short periods of time pupils can be placed on an intervention, PM+, which will address concerns and help to improve fluency. Other interventions can focus on reading comprehension, retrieval and inference. All interventions have an entry and exit points so that progress and impact can be monitored.

**Vocabulary Development:**

The teaching of vocabulary is fundamental to the teaching of reading and writing and takes place throughout the entire teaching sequence. Throughout the teaching sequence all children encounter core books and model texts with a challenging level of vocabulary. New words that the children encounter are explored and children are encouraged to share any new vocabulary with their peers and discuss their meaning. Words that are being taught are presented to the children on yellow cards and displayed within the classroom. Vocabulary from the text is carefully planned and is taught both explicitly (pre-taught) and implicitly (at the point of reading). The words selected to be explicitly taught include tier 2 words (words which have more than one meaning depending of the context of the text) and tier 3 words (more 'academic' words with specific definitions e.g. scientific/technical words.) All classrooms are vocabulary rich and reflect/exemplify the words and phrases which have been taught and explored over a sequence of learning/within a topic area.

The acquisition of vocabulary is developed even further by using the following strategies:

- Attention to and understanding of new vocabulary or unfamiliar vocabulary is planned for on weekly planning. Identified vocabulary is modelled by the teacher, displayed on working walls and referred to in relevant learning exercises.
- Pupils will have opportunities to work with dictionaries and thesauruses.
- In KS2 as children read individually, they gather unfamiliar vocabulary on their bookmarks which can be shared in 1:1 discussion.
- It is recognised that reading comprehension relies heavily on knowledge. Our broad curriculum aids comprehension by ensuring that children gain the knowledge of the world in which they live and bring such knowledge to their reading.

**Developing the Love of Reading:**

We are passionate about developing lifelong readers who read for pleasure by volition and are working hard to develop a whole-school culture of reading for pleasure. Teachers have extensive knowledge of children's books and read aloud to the children daily with enthusiasm, bringing the books alive. We make sure that we build in time to talk about books throughout the day using informal and planned book talk opportunities. Reading is at the very heart of the curriculum and children explore books across all subjects. Books have high profile around classrooms and our books areas and library are regularly updated alongside the children to ensure they are engaging and high quality.

The following strategies are used to develop the love of reading and a culture of reading for pleasure in our school:

- Book time. Sharing books/texts takes place every day in all classes . We have identified as a school which stories the children will be highly familiar with by the end of EYFS to Year 6. High quality texts are selected by each teacher to tie in with the topic being taught.





- Reading Environment: Each class has an area that is designated and designed for Reading Displays around the classroom either promote a book, display work related to a book or promote further a love of reading. This is up-dated regularly.
- Each class has stock of reading material that is engaging and age appropriate for pupils to be able to select from as and when desired. Again, this is updated at regular intervals.
- School Library: The children can take home library books once a week to share at home. Choices can be from fiction or non-fiction. Librarians (children) volunteer to help out with the library taking on various roles.
- Best Books for Each Year Group are distributed and shared with each Class and lists are shared with home too.
- Reading Walls compiled by pupils demonstrating a breadth of genres read.
- Book Fairs (2x per year)
- Promotion of Author visits/relevant educational trips and experiences eg Theatre versions of stories.
- Promote books from a diversity of cultures, religions , faiths gender, race and protected characteristics.
- Classics and books with archaic language will also be promoted.

### **Parental Partnerships:**

Every effort is made to help parents understand and support the school approach to reading. Parents are helped to know how best to support their child in early reading, reading comprehension and vocabulary development by carrying out parent workshops and information on our website. Reading at home is strongly promoted; our expectation is that children read at home a set number of times per week. Teachers share this expectation with parents at the beginning of a school year. Every effort is made to help parents understand and support the school approach to reading. Parents are helped to know how best to support their child in early reading, reading comprehension and vocabulary development by carrying out parent workshops and by information we provide. Teachers ensure that parents understand how to work appropriately (and differently) with decodable books and 'real' books.

Children take reading books home on a daily basis. In Key Stage 1, the system in place for children changing books is to bring their books everyday and inform their class teacher if they have finished their book. They are welcome to keep their book or change it. Reading diaries /records are used in KS2 by parents and the teacher monitors these in order to ensure children are reading at home and also to gain information about other books that children may have access to at home.

### **Assessment:**

We use a range of strategies to assess the children's reading and employ effective formative and summative assessment procedures throughout. Teachers refer to such assessments as a support for making judgements and to inform planning. Teachers will use their professional judgement to determine whether a child is working within age-related expectations, above or below. They base their judgements on the quality of the child's reading at three specific assessment points throughout the year. Teachers also monitor progress when children complete quizzes/assessments periodically after reading books from our Accelerated Reader scheme.





### **Leadership of Reading:**

Reading is identified as a key priority on our Academy Improvement Plan. Leaders monitor the provision of reading through learning walks in Literacy and Phonics sessions, work scrutinies and through pupil voice. They evaluate the impact of this provision through the analysis of (i) end of year cohort data (Phonics Screening Check and end of KS1 and 2 Reading) and (ii) individual pupil progress throughout the year (on going assessments).

### **KS2 Impact:**

By the end of LKS2 we expect our children to:

- Have decoding skills that are secure and hence vocabulary is developing
- Be independent, fluent and enthusiastic readers who read widely and frequently
- Be developing their understanding and enjoyment of stories, poetry, plays and non-fiction, and learning to read silently
- Be developing their knowledge and skills in reading non-fiction about a wide range of subjects
- Be able to justify their views independently about what they have read.

By the end of Year 6 we expect our children to:

- Read sufficiently fluently and effortlessly, with understanding at an age-appropriate interest level in readiness for secondary school.

In addition, we expect our children to:

- Have a love of reading that feeds the imagination
- Read widely across both fiction and non-fiction, developing knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live
- Have a developed vocabulary beyond that used in everyday speech
- Understand nuances in vocabulary choice
- Have age-appropriate, academic vocabulary.