



ALL SAINTS
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM
GOD'S LOVE IN ACTION

PHONICS AND READING

Reading is a fundamental skill that enriches the rest of our Curriculum. All Saints Multi Academy Trust Birmingham is committed to making achievement in reading a reality for all pupils. We teach reading skills in different 'subject areas' as well as showing our commitment to reading by teaching focussed reading lessons every single morning of the week. We recognise that phonics play an important part in teaching children how to read so we use the '**Letters and Sounds**' resource to support early readers. The specific teaching of comprehension skills is also woven throughout our reading lessons. Teaching children to gain understanding from a text is a crucial part of developing reading skills further. Teachers choose from a variety of texts and genres to give children a wide experience of reading.

LETTERS AND SOUNDS

Letters and Sounds is divided into six phases, with each phase building on the skills and knowledge of previous learning. Children have time to practise and rapidly expand their ability to read and spell words. They are also taught to read and spell tricky words, which are words with spellings that cannot be phonically sounded out. E.g. the, they, you, are, my, said, have, like, all, her, was.....

Reading Opportunities

- Shared Reading
- Guided Reading
- Individual Reading
- Bug Club – reading books
- Independent Reading (ind, grp or pair)
- Home Reading
- Hearing Books read aloud on a regular basis
- Selecting own choice of texts
- Making close links between reading and writing
- Reading in all subject areas
- Reading in assemblies
- Reading in the community (volunteers etc)

All of these are essential because they offer different opportunities to develop fluent, enthusiastic and critical readers.

Guided Reading

- Children in Nursey and Reception take part in daily phonics, guided reading groups and library groups.
- From Year One, all children take part in a daily 30 minute reading activity that is resourced to suit their ability.
- These sessions are planned effectively to ensure that every activity is meaningful and builds on reading skills and reading experiences.
- There are a wide range of high-quality texts available for reading sessions and teachers choose a text at the appropriate level for their group.

What can you do?

The government says that 'reading with your child and helping them with writing and spelling can help boost their achievement'. A lot of research has been done about children reading regularly... A national newspaper's headline stated: 'Reading to children daily 'improves achievement and behaviour at school'

TOP TIPS for reading at home:

- Use phonics to help support your child when sounding out words. If you aren't sure how to do that, ask your child's teacher for information about 'Letters and Sounds'.
- Read everywhere you go, look around at all the opportunities you can give your child to read... shops, signs, newspapers, food labels.
- Teach your child a good habit by helping them to read at least 10 minutes a day—you can use the home-reader your child will get or books from the library.
- Ask your child questions about what they have read to see if they have understood what happens, what the characters feel or give predictions about how things will turn out.