



St George's Catholic
Primary Voluntary
Academy



Reading Curriculum Intent Statement

At St George's we believe reading is at the heart of the curriculum and strive to develop a love for reading in all pupils. Our intent is for all St George's pupils, regardless of background or attainment, to utilise automatic decoding in order to become fluent, skilled and confident readers. This is achieved through the teaching of phonics, following the Letters and Sounds programme, through explicit teaching and practice of comprehension skills and through engaging texts that interest and inspire children. Children have the chance to engage with a variety of texts such as novels, poetry, picture books, narrative poems and classic stories.

Through our English and Reading curriculum, children develop transferable key qualities and skills that help them to progress not only in their reading but across all areas of the curriculum. Daily phonics teaching in EYFS and KS1 develops children's phonetic knowledge, decoding, blending and segmenting. Once children have developed age-related fluent word reading skills, they are explicitly taught the comprehension skills necessary to understand what they have read. These lessons are supported by inclusive engaging texts and other teaching resources.

Parents play a vital role in developing their children's reading habits and are invited to Phonics and Reading Comprehension workshops to learn how to support their child at home. Communication about children's reading progress between home and school is a strong feature of our school through the use of Reading Records.

We value the importance of children reading aloud and being read to in shaping their reading development. Children experience a range of opportunities to develop their reading experiences at St George's through 'story time' with their teachers; visiting the School Library; Guided Reading; 1:1 reading sessions with a teacher or TA; celebrating World Book Day; Book Fairs and author visits. Children are given reading books to take home each week and are encouraged to supplement reading at home with the use of Bug Club Independent online reading programme as well as their own reading materials at home.

By the end of KS2, children become competent readers of a range of genres who can recommend books to their peers and participate in discussions about books. We aim for our children to become proficient readers, enabling them to access all areas of the curriculum, and to develop a pleasure for life-long reading.