

# Reading Curriculum Implementation

We value reading as a key life skill and as such it is a fundamental part of what we do. We are dedicated to enabling our children to become lifelong readers by having a holistic approach from when the children start their journey with us in Reception. All children at Phoenix are exposed to high-quality texts linked to the children's topics across the curriculum and reading skills are taught explicitly in all year groups. As a school, reading has a very high-profile. Through the teaching of phonics in the Early Years and Key Stage 1, our aim is for all children to enter Lower Key Stage 2 being fluent readers. This way, children can focus on developing their **fluency and comprehension** as they move through the school. Children in all year groups hone their comprehension skills through a variety of different methods, including our highly successful Accelerated Reader programme, online platforms such as ReadTheory and PurpleMash, as well as accessing targeted comprehension sessions with their teachers which focus on allowing our children to have a secure understanding of the different types of comprehension questions. As a result, you will find our children can speak assuredly about different types of reading questions, assessing which ones are harder than others and the reasons why, and confidently explain what kind of response is required.

Whilst reading fluency and comprehension are of the utmost importance to us, we also pride ourselves on giving our children opportunities to read for pleasure in the school day outside of their structured reading lessons. Whether writing book recommendations for their peers, diving into the books in our incredible library, being read to by members of staff or curling up in our cosy book pods in class, you are sure to find **reading for pleasure** happening in our school on a daily-basis should you pay us a visit.

All children in our school have access to two reading books every week. In the Early Years, students have a fully-decodable book which matches their phonics learning and progression in class and a 'for pleasure' book to enjoy with an adult or sibling. Children who access the Accelerated Reader programme take a quiz after each book they read. This measures their retrieval skills. The number of quiz and the overall class score and word count are shared each week in our celebration assembly. Three times a year, our children take a Test through the Accelerated Reading Programme; from this we can ascertain their reading age and will generate a ZPD (zone of Proximal Development) which provides a guide for a reading stage. Reading conferencing between Children and their teachers occur termly; with moderations taking place between teachers to ascertain accurate judgements. Teachers use the 21 Steps Assessment for reading to make their judgements.



## Reading Curriculum Impact

Children will enjoy reading across a range of genres

- Children of all abilities will be able to succeed in all reading lessons
- Children will use a range of strategies for decoding words, not solely relying on phonics
- Children will have a good knowledge of a range of authors
- Children will be ready to read in any subject in their forthcoming secondary education
- Parents and carers will have a good understanding of how they can support reading at home, and contribute regularly to home-school records
- There will be no significant gaps in the progress of different groups of Children (e.g. disadvantaged vs non disadvantaged)