



Reading for Pleasure Strategy

Primary Schools

We actively encourage reading for pleasure and recognise it as a core part of every child's education, regardless of their background or attainment. We make reading a key part of our curriculum and expose pupils to a wide range of texts in a variety of different situations.

Our aim is that every child becomes a lifelong reader. The national Literacy Trust has noted that becoming a lifelong reader is based on developing a deep love of reading. There is a growing body of evidence which illustrates the importance of reading for pleasure for both educational purposes as well as personal development (cited in Clark and Rumbold, 2006).

Our Reading for Pleasure strategy is designed to encourage a love for reading among students and their families:

1. Aim:

We aim to increase the number of students and families who read for pleasure and measure this using pupil feedback surveys each autumn and summer term.

2. Diverse Book Selection:

Ensure a diverse range of books whereby all children can recognise themselves, including those by UK authors and from different genres, are accessible to pupils. Our collection will be updated with new releases. Schools will collaborate with local bookstores and libraries to obtain discounts or donations.

3. Libraries and/or Reading Corners:

Create inviting reading corners or spaces within the school with a variety of reading materials including fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

4. Reading Leaders Program:

Implement a reading leaders' program where older students read to or with younger ones. Fostering a sense of community and promoting reading. Reading leaders will promote reading through initiatives and presentations to the whole school.

5. Book Club:

Run weekly class-based book clubs for students to discuss books they've read, encouraging critical thinking and social interaction. DfE suggest incorporating three-word reviews.

6. Family Engagement:

Encourage parents and guardians to participate by sending reading recommendations home, volunteering to read, or attending family reading events. Schools will hold reading workshops to support and promote family engagement.

7. Reading Assemblies and Celebrations:

Hold regular reading assemblies where teachers and students can share their favourite books and experiences. This time is also used to share winners of reading challenges or those pupils who are good examples of independent readers. Celebrate World Book Day with special events and book-related activities.

8. Reading Records and Progress Tracking:

Maintain records of each student's reading progress and provide feedback. Share reading achievements with parents through regular reports.

9. Technology Integration:

Utilise technology by making books accessible via school tablets and QR codes. Investigate digital reading platforms to widen accessibility and link to pupil's preference for electronic methods.

10. Reading Challenges and Competitions:

Encourage pupil-led competition with reading challenges within the school or with other schools in the Trust. Books are used as rewards for excellent work.

11. Community Partnerships:

Collaborate with local libraries, bookstores, and community organisations to organise reading events and secure additional resources.

12. Staff Training:

Professional support, coaching, training and guidance is made available for staff to support their understanding and develop their skills in promoting reading for pleasure through:

- Staff meetings and INSET
- Discussions with SLT, English Subject Leader and SENDCo
- Discussions and sharing good practice within Teaching and Learning Network
- Wider reading/research on 'Reading for Pleasure'

13. Assessment and Evaluation:

Regularly assess the impact of the reading for pleasure program through surveys, reading fluency assessments, reading speed checks and standardised reading tests.

14. Continuous Improvement:

Continuously adapt the reading for pleasure strategy based on student feedback, evidence-based research, DfE guidance and emerging trends in children's literature.

Fostering a love for reading is an ongoing and dynamic process, and this strategy should be flexible to accommodate the unique needs and interests of each School's students. Regularly review and refine the strategy to ensure its effectiveness within each school.