



Kidmore End CE Primary School Phonics and Early Reading Curriculum 2022 -2023

Intent

At Kidmore End Primary School, we believe that it is essential that **all** children become confident, successful, fluent readers. To do so, we aim for all children to develop competence in word reading; promote and develop language; and ensure that throughout their time at Kidmore End Primary School they experience a range of high-quality texts leading to a strong reading culture. We believe in the importance of teaching children systematic synthetic phonics as a firm foundation for reading. Being able to read most words 'at a glance', supports children in being free to focus on the meaning of what has been read.

We intend for all pupils to achieve to their full potential and will ensure this happens by:

- Following a systematic synthetic programme with fidelity
- Ensuring that all children participate in high-quality phonics sessions
- Tracking children from the start to ensure that no child falls behind
- Ensuring all staff are experts in the teaching of reading
- Appointing a designated phonics lead
- Developing strong relationships between home and school
- Promoting a love of reading
- Ensuring children apply their phonic knowledge in reading and writing across the full curriculum

Implementation

In KS1 we follow the Rising Stars Reading Planet Rocket Phonics programme which is a fully resourced systematic synthetic phonics programme phonics is taught daily by teachers who are fully trained to teach phonics. The phonics programme is started at the beginning of the Foundation year. At Kidmore End phonics is taught as a whole class. The phonics lesson lasts between 20-30 minutes and begins with a teacher input. This increases to 60 minutes as the year progresses. The children then go into smaller groups to apply their learning. To begin with, 2 sounds a week are taught and the phonics programme alternates between segmenting and blending to ensure these skills are embedded as progress is made through the programme. In KS1 children complete a phonics workbook as part of their phonics teaching and learning. In year 1 the focus is on embedding the sounds and introducing the alternative sounds in the alphabetic code. In Year 2, early reading skills are taught through the Next Steps Rocket Phonics programme and English lessons daily with more work focussed on comprehension, punctuation and grammar. In KS2 reading skills are continued to be taught in daily English lessons, complimented by Rocket Phonics resources where appropriate. Rocket Phonics is an online programme with many e resources which can be assigned to groups of children or an individual child, so lends itself to the remote teaching of phonics if necessary. At Kidmore End Rising stars Rocket phonics reading books run alongside the Oxford Reading Tree books and includes a range of fiction and non-fiction books. The reading scheme is matched to the Rocket

Phonics teaching programme thus allowing the children to progress through the reading scheme during KS1 and into KS2.

Children will have lots of opportunities to read throughout the day at school. This will range from 1:1 reading to sharing a big book as a class. Decodable reading books are assigned to children to read out loud to an adult. Reading books are read at school and are taken home too. Children are encouraged to read at home daily and progress is recorded in the reading logs. Children will read books matched with their phonics knowledge e.g. not encounter words containing GPCs or exception words they have not yet been taught at school as part of the Rocket Phonics programme. Reading scheme books should not be a challenge for children, instead they should offer the opportunity to practice the phonics they already know. Teachers regularly assess the pupil's phonics knowledge using the phonics assessment in target tracker and against the reading Early Learning Goal as part of the EYFS profile. These regular assessments inform planning and allow teachers to identify any gaps in learning. Children have the opportunity to take home other high quality texts to share at home, to further their exposure to new, exciting vocabulary and to help to foster their love for reading.

Impact

Our phonics and early reading scheme enables children to develop a phonological understanding and comprehension skills to enhance their learning. Children are taught to independently decode words and to use their phonological awareness when decoding is not possible. Children are exposed to a variety of reading materials to enable them to gather information and to foster a love and joy of reading. Through the teaching of systematic phonics, our aim is for children to become fluent readers by the end of Key Stage One. This way, children can focus on developing their fluency and comprehension as they move through the school. Attainment in reading is measured using the statutory assessments at the end of KS1 and KS2. These results are measured against the reading attainment of children nationally. Attainment in phonics is measured by the Phonics Screening Test at the end of Yr 1. However, we firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the results of the statutory assessments.