



Our Reading Curriculum

Reading Update

Since September we have been further improving and developing our Early Reading Curriculum. In all curriculum areas there must be a focus on building strong foundations, but this is particularly key to reading. The ability to read with confidence is key to progress in other areas of learning and research shows that pupils achieve better outcomes in writing and maths (as well as other subjects) if they can read well and if they read regularly for enjoyment.

What is Read, Write, Inc?



In school we use the Read Write Inc. (RWI) programme to teach children phonics and early reading. Please see the following page for the Parent's Guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics.

How does Read Write Inc. work in school?

- Children begin learning the RWI programme when they start school in Reception and they continue through to the end of Y1/beginning of Y2 (dependent on their progress). Some children may complete the programme early and other children could remain on the programme beyond Y2 if required.
- Our pupils take part in 30 minute RWI sessions every morning and these consist of a very concise schedule of phonics work, word building and RWI storybook reading. Each time the storybook sessions have been completed (after approximately 3 lessons), children will bring the book home to read.
- Children are assessed every 6 weeks and matched to the correct level of RWI learning for their ability. Children are then grouped accordingly and taught in small mixed-age groups. If our RWI trained staff feel that a child is showing significant progress before their assessment, they may be moved to the next learning group sooner.
- Children who are finding RWI challenging and have difficulty making the progress we aim for, will receive additional support through 1:1 sessions.
- Children who complete the RWI programme, may still benefit from additional interventions to ensure that their learning of the programme is retained to support their reading/writing.

What should we do at home?

Books – Children will bring home the RWI book that they have been learning and practicing in school. The purpose of this is for them to 'show off' their reading and gain confidence in showing parents/family what they have learned. They should be able to read their book without difficulty, but this does not mean the book is too easy, it means that they have been successful in learning to read that book in school and must practise to further embed their knowledge. We would still encourage the book to be read at home each night, before the next book is sent home.

Flashcards – From this point forward, each time children finish a reading level, they will be sent home with a pack of flashcards. They will keep these same cards until they complete the next level. We would strongly encourage those flashcards to be regularly practised at home to assist with speedy word recognition. To begin with, children may choose to 'Fred talk' (sound out) the word, but the aim is for them to begin to read these words faster and without the need to sound them out.

Shared Reader Book – As well as their RWI book, children are encouraged to bring home a 'shared reading book', these are labelled and are taken from the class reading box. Children can bring these home for enjoyment, they will not necessarily be able to/be expected to read these alone. Therefore, they are there to be shared with family or enjoyed as a bedtime story. Children should NOT be taught to read them as they are unlikely to follow the phonic patterns/rules of the RWI programme.

Recording Reading – It is really important that you record in your child's home/school book when they have been heard read or practised their flashcards at home. This can simply be a date and initials/signature to allow us to recognise and monitor which children are regularly reading at home.

A Parents' Guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics.



At Houghton St. Giles, we use the Read Write Inc. (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their literacy.

Read Write Inc. Phonics is a method of teaching reading, which is centred around learning the sounds of the letters (phonics) and then blending them together to read words. The children also learn to break down words into individual sounds in order to help write them.

When using RWI to read the children will:

- Learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into understanding what they read.
- Learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts.
- Learn to read words using Fred Talk (reading the sounds in words).
- Learn to read words by blending the sounds together.
- Read stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out.
- Show that they understand the stories by answering 'Find It' and 'Prove it' discussion questions.

When using RWI to write the children will:

- Spell effectively so that they can put their energy into working out what they want to write.
- Learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds (graphemes).
- Learn to write words by hearing and saying the sounds in words - Fred Talk.

Blending

Children learn to read words by blending the letter sounds that are in the Speed Sound sets. Help your child to read words by sound-blending e.g. c-a-t = cat. Help children to say the **pure sounds** (see below), as quickly as they can and then to blend the sounds together to say the whole word.

Set 1 Sounds

m	a	s	d	t	i	n
p	g	o	c	k	ck	u
b	f	e	l	h	sh	r
j	v	y	w	th	z	ch
qu	x	ng	nk			

Set 2 Sounds

ay	ee	igh	ow	oo	oo
or	ar	air	ir	ou	oy

Set 3 Sounds

ea	oi	a-e	i-e	o-e
u-e	aw	are	ur	er
ow	ai	oa	ew	ire
ear	ure	tion	ious	ious

How will I know how to pronounce the phonic/pure sounds?

<https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/5iLiqJ23/JliqTH3T>