

Reading at St Bede's

All children are treated as readers as soon as they enter school. In school they will use books continually. They are encouraged to look at them, discuss them and retell the stories. They are read to, and with, as a class, in small groups for guided reading and on an individual basis, as appropriate. During these times reading comprehension skills, phonics skills and word recognition skills are developed.

The children have access to books from a wide selection of fiction and non-fiction and poetry. They are be organised in “book bands” which include books from a number of reading schemes including Oxford Reading Tree, Oxford Reading Tree Songbirds, Collins Big Cats and Rigby Star, as well as individual titles. The band/level of book taken home by the children are matched to those shared with the teacher in school, including books which have phonic emphasis. Children will have a home/school diary in which the teacher will inform parent/carers about their child's progress and in which parents/carers are able to comment.

Reading is taught using a wide variety of appropriate strategies, including Phonics (sounding out the letter sounds/phonemes), recognition of common exception words (words commonly used which can't be “sounded out”), and comprehension with an emphasis placed on reading for meaning, including inference.

Phonics

Phonics skills for reading and spelling are taught through the daily use of the Jolly Phonics Programme in Year One and Year Two with Letters and Sounds and Support for Spelling activities to teach sounds/phonemes and spelling . This is supplemented by a wide range of other activities.