



Reading At Home Guidance

We have compiled the information below to support parents with reading at home, however please get in touch at any time if you have any questions or comments on this topic.

Reading at home with your child is one of the easiest, yet most important ways in which you can support your child. Regularly reading with, and to, your child will develop important skills that will boost their reading ability and success across the curriculum.

The Reading Environment

Try to make reading at home a calm, special and enjoyable part of the day, so that children learn to love reading as they grow. Make time for reading and approach the activity with a positive mindset and enthusiasm.

Reading to your child and Book Chat

Children are never too old to be read to! Hearing a text read helps children of all ages to learn the pattern and flow of the English language. It helps to develop fluency, expression and intonation. Another way to enhance these skills is through listening to audio books.

When reading to your child, make the most of the experience by not just reading the words but talking about the book too - we call this Book Chat. Please follow the links below for guidance to help parents, families and carers read and talk about books with your children.

- [A video example of Book Chat - One Fox \(Age 5+\)](#)
- [A video example of Book Chat - House that Once Was \(Age 7+\)](#)
- [A video example of Book Chat - The Same Inside \(Age 9+\)](#)

Listening to your child read

At Amblecote Primary, we recommend hearing your child read every day - a little a day, every day. The minimum we ask is three times a week. All pupils have a Reading Record in which to record what they have read at home and the 'comments' column allows you, and as they get older the children, to reflect on their reading. [Click here to read our Reading Records guidance.](#)

Reading material

Texts for your children to read to you...

In Reception and Key Stage 1, an electronic version of the book your child has been reading all week in their reading group, will be shared with you, so that you can hear your child 'perform'. These online books will be available **from Friday 14th January 2022** (which will be the end of the first full week of teaching).

From the Spring term 2022, some children in Year 2 and children in Key Stage 2, will be using Accelerated Reader. This is a computer-based program that we will use to monitor reading practice and progress. It helps teachers guide the children to books that are at their individual reading levels. Children will take short quizzes after reading a book to check if they've understood it.

Texts for you to read to them...

Pupils will visit the school library and have access to the brilliant book basket in their class, so they can borrow a range of books to share at home. These may be at the right level for your child to read independently, but if not you can read to them. Choosing books from a vast array at a library is part of the magic of being a reader and encourages pleasure in reading. [Click here to find out more about joining Stourbridge Library](#). As children get older they will become more skilled at selecting books they can read independently - this is skill we support them with at school.

Find your own reading material...

Remember you can always find your own reading material to share at home. Read whatever children show an interest in, for example, recipes, construction manuals or comics. Visit your local library or charity shop to keep costs low.

Useful links:

- [Booktrust bookfinder tool](#)
- [Book Trust recommendations](#)
- [Find out more about Stourbridge library - click here](#)
- [Recommended Reading Lists for age groups and topics - click here](#)

Phonics

When children first learn to read, they will take part in daily phonics lessons at Amblecote Primary. As a school we follow Little Wandle - [click here to visit their parent page](#). Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 will bring home a reading practice book at least once a week in line with their phonics ability (as well as a reading for pleasure book). [Click here to visit our phonics page](#).

Additional documents and links to support reading at home

- [What if my child doesn't like reading?](#)
- [Book Trust - Reading with your child](#)
- [Book Trust website - click here](#)
- [Literacy Trust Website - click here](#)
- [Government Top Ten Tips to support reading at home](#)