



Approach to Reading



Reading is at the heart of the curriculum at Moorside. Throughout school, a love of reading and an appreciation of books is fostered through highly engaging learning opportunities and immersive experiences that are linked to high quality texts. It is these carefully chosen class texts which drive learning in other areas of the curriculum.

Early Reading

At Moorside, Phonics is taught through the *systematic, synthetic phonics* programme outlined in Read, Write Inc. *Fidelity to the programme* is key and all staff understand the benefits of a clear and consistent programme of SSP.

Throughout the programme, children learn the English alphabetic code: the 150+ graphemes that represent 44 speech sounds. They rapidly learn sounds and the letter, or groups of letters; they need to represent them, in three sets of *Speed Sound Lessons*. Simple mnemonics help children grasp the letter-sound correspondences. This knowledge is taught and consolidated every day. This will begin in Nursery and continue through to Year 2.

High frequency words that are not phonetically regular are taught as 'Red Words'.

Once ready, children are given phonic books within the lessons that are closely matched to children's increasing knowledge of phonics and red words so that, early on, they experience of success and as a result they grow in confidence. Repeated readings of the same book throughout the week increase their fluent decoding. Children will read this book at least three times throughout the week.

The first read, children focus on accurate word reading. The second, on developing fluency, and the third, on comprehension. Fluency and comprehension increase with each repeated reading.

Each book includes and recaps Speed Sounds to practice, Red words, a thought-provoking introduction, and comprehension prompts to discuss with the teacher.

Each Phonics lesson will include spelling, and an appropriate writing task.

Reading in the Curriculum

Reading is taught discretely through focused reading sessions as well as through English lessons where strategies from the Power of Reading are used alongside text interrogation to deepen children's understanding. Discrete reading lessons follow a cycle of 8 sessions which have been carefully designed for teaching comprehension by combining a skills-based approach alongside the explicit teaching of vocabulary.



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Reading Plus

At Moorside, we are committed to enabling children to become motivated, independent readers. Reading Plus is an online resource which is used in Key Stage 2 to develop silent reading, fluency and stamina as well as providing the opportunity for each child to develop their own vocabulary and comprehension skills. As students work to develop the skills and stamina required for extended reading with good comprehension, they are presented with personalized scaffolding to build independent reading skills. Students who demonstrate mastery are progressed to increasingly higher levels of practice and instructional rigor.

Reading for Pleasure

The children at Moorside are also encouraged to read for pleasure. We discuss what this means to them and why it is important. Along with the texts we use in English, the class reads and the book banded books, children have access to a wide and diverse selection of books. We encourage book talk with peers and with staff. Teachers read to the children, along with the children and at the same time as the children to model good reading practices.