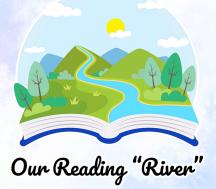
St Bede's Catholic Academy



St Bede's Catholic Academy Our Reading "River"



At St. Bede's, we want it to be a place where children are read to, enjoy listening to high-quality books and share their enjoyment of stories through discussion. We want to be a school where, over seven or eight years, children are ready to, enjoy, discuss, and work with core books. This is the 'Reading Spine'.

Our Reading River (or Spine) is one element of the approach we take to foster a lover for reading in our children. The River is a spine of core books that create a living library inside the minds of pupils at St Bede's. It is a store of classics and essential reads that help our children engage at a deeper level and enter the world of the story. We have produced our very own Reading River for every year group; giving children access to these high-quality texts. The texts that will be included are nursery rhymes. Sin't takes, classics stories, and poetry.

Because we know that children bring their existing knowledge to what they are reading, our Reading Spine reflects the curriculum, social context and diversity of St Bede's. By doing so, we are helping our children to connect their knowledge in a meaningful way. Ultimately, while our children are continuing to enjoy a range of books throughout their school journey, they are also learning to become readers.

We use the Reading Spine books in every year group over the school year. From children moving into UF at St Bede's, to leaving in Year 6, they will have been immersed into the most fantastic books available to children.

How It Works

Each year group has a set of texts that make up our Reading River. The composition of the books/texts chosen for the Spine underpins (where possible) the context of the school, our curriculum, and the diversity of its children. This Reading "River" is not to be confused with the structured reading scheme which is well established.



