



Thames View Junior School

Home Reading Policy September 2025

Reading for pleasure and purpose at School and at Home

Learning to read is different for everyone, but we believe it begins with sharing a love of books. Children who are introduced to books from an early age and who are frequently read to are more likely to learn to read more readily and more easily.

The aims of this policy are:

- To share the responsibility for reading development between the home and the school
- To encourage children to read for pleasure and purpose at home as well as at school
- To ensure that reading is integrated at the heart of the learning process.

How are reading books for Home and School organised at Thames View Junior?

At Thames View Junior, we use the Accelerated Reader programme which is an educational programme created by Renaissance Learning. It is designed to monitor and manage students' independent reading practice and comprehension and the programme assesses students' performance through quizzes and tests based on the books they have read. Each half term pupils will complete a regular reading assessment using the STAR reader software in school. This will be used to determine the reading age and reading level of the child to enable them to take appropriate books home.

Reading books for school and for home are organised in each classroom, corridors and in the library. In every classroom there is a selection of books which the children have access to; these are organised in Book Corners. Each Book Corner is a welcoming and comfortable area of the classroom where children spent time reading and browsing. Each Book Corner has a range of fiction and nonfiction books displayed for interest, age and ability. We ensure that we add to our books regularly by acquiring books, visiting the library and topic collections. In addition to this, classroom corridors have a selection of banded accelerated reader books for children to take home and all classes have opportunities to visit the library on a weekly basis to change their books.

Parents have a crucial role to play

Parents/carers are expected to read with their children daily to developing reading ability and fluency. Parents are expected to encourage their child to read and to discuss the books they are reading. Parents/carers should give their children lots of opportunities for reading; taking them to the library, local bookshop, reading such things as cornflake packets, letters, cards, adverts, brochures, newspapers, magazines, timetables, labels in the environment, books with tapes, road maps and comics.

We would like Parents/carers to develop along with our school, a love of reading and books and an understanding that reading is for pleasure and purpose. Parents/carers have a fundamental role to play as role models as readers and to encourage their children to read for enjoyment and to show them how reading can unlock a world of interest and information.

How is Home School Reading organised across the school?

All children will receive a reading record at the start of the term and this an important book which goes between school and home. Every time a child is read with in school this will be recorded in their reading record and teachers welcome comments to be written in the book each day when reading is done at home. The children are also

encouraged to keep an independent record and reflection about the books they have read. At the end of each week, the amount of home reads is counted and the expectation is that children are listened to reading at home for ten to fifteen minutes at least three times a week.

Children will have opportunities to take a short comprehension quiz on their book in school or at home and then they will be able to change their book based on their level. The STAR reader assessment will be carried out at the end of each half term with the aim that children will improve and be able to access a wider range of books.

Further Support for Parents

Parents/Carers are able to talk to their class teachers about their children's reading at any time. This can be done through appointment or informally at the beginning or end of the day.