**Hugh Joicey C of E Aided First School**

**The Teaching of Reading**

Reading is an essential skill for life, so at Ford First School we aim to make sure that every child:

* Can read confidently and with automaticity, and understand the written word
* Understands the importance of reading to their future success in life
* Develops a lifelong love of reading

We teach and nurture reading skills in a variety of different ways.

**Sharing stories**

Story time and storytelling are valued part of our school day. Every year group has a regular timetabled slot to share stories together, giving planned opportunities to:

* Develop an understanding of story structure
* Predict and infer
* Understand the feelings and actions of the characters
* Use picture clues
* Instill a love of reading from an early age

It is important to hear stories read by a range of people. All adults in school read to children, and we always encourage guest storytellers from the wider community.

**Guided reading**

Across the key stages, children take part in a guided reading session, once a week from Year 1 to Year4. All staff delivering guided reading have a clear understanding of the reading objectives that need to be taught in that year group, and of the key focus of the session itself. These sessions allow children to:

* Practise and improve their decoding skills and develop fluency and automaticity.
* Take part in discussions about the text that they are reading, whether this is fiction or non-fiction

**Reading in the English Curriculum and beyond**

The National Curriculum for English is taught in English in Key Stage 1 and 2. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, reading progression is seen through the Development Matters bands, with children working towards achieving or exceeding the Early Learning Goals.

Curriculum coverage and progression can be seen in progression charts and long term planning documents. High quality texts from a variety of genres are used to cover the objectives. Children have wide and varied planned opportunities to practise and apply their developing reading skills across all curriculum areas.

**Paired reading**

We run a Reading Buddy scheme from Reception to Year 4. This allows less confident, developing readers the opportunity to read alongside a supportive partner, and to enjoy listening to stories read by their peers. The relationship is mutually beneficial. There is free choice over the reading material and children can share their preferences with their peers. The discussions about a story can be as important as the reading itself!

**A reading rich school**

At Ford School we aim to maintain the love of reading that begins to be nurtured in our onsite Pre-School. We understand that children develop a love of reading when it is fun and engaging and all around. There is a reading area in Reception and Key Stage 1 classrooms, and Key Stage 2 children are able to use the school library, which is adjacent to the classroom.

We aim to invite local authors to visit our school and we regularly organise visits with a reading focus, for example visiting the local library, or trips to the local care home to share stories with some of the residents.

We celebrate World Book Day annually to enthuse children on their reading journey through activities such as dressing up, read-a-thons and book swaps.

We promote and encourage children to join in with reading events in the community, e.g. the Summer Reading Challenge at the library and our in-house Extreme Reading Challenge.