



Reading

At Froxfield, we believe that it is vital for children to learn to read confidently in order for them to become independent learners. We aim to develop a rich reading culture throughout the school through teacher modelling, a well-resourced school library, vocabulary rich displays, high quality texts, and inviting reading areas and displays.

Reading is a crucial life-skill and, at Froxfield CE School, we strongly believe that reading broadly and frequently increases pupils' vocabulary due to them encountering words they would rarely hear or use in everyday spoken language. Reading also feeds pupils' imagination and opens up a treasure-chest of wonder and joy for curious young minds. We know that it is essential that, by the end of their primary education, all pupils are able to read fluently, and with confidence, in any subject, to be successful in their secondary education.

Through our reading-rich curriculum, which is based on high quality and engaging text drivers that are suitable to children's age, ability and experiences, we endeavour to develop a life-long love for reading in our children. We place a great emphasis on listening to and enjoying stories, with children having access to a wide range of children's books and authors as they move through the school.

In EYFS and Key Stage 1, children are given two reading books to take home: one book that matches their phonics knowledge and can be read independently, and a shared colour-banded reading book which closely matches their phonics ability, but may include some words that the child will need help to read and is aimed to support the development of high frequency vocabulary and reading skills such as using picture clues, repetition, sentence sense etc.

In Key Stage two, children are encouraged to regularly take home colour-banded books that match their reading ability as well as their choice of library books each week. As children become free readers, they are then able to select books from home and the library to read. Children are also given weekly home learning tasks to support with their reading comprehension. A reading diary is provided to all children as a place where parents, staff and children can comment on their progress in reading.

Phonics and Spelling

At Froxfield we follow a systematic, synthetic phonics programme. Children are taught daily phonics throughout EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 and children are taught to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They learn to form each letter, spell correctly, and compose their ideas step-by-step.

Through teaching synthetic phonics, children learn the English alphabet code: first they learn one way to read the 40+ sounds and blend these sounds into words, then they learn to read the same sounds with alternative graphemes.

Children generally move from phonics teaching onto a structured spelling programme in Year 2.