



Reading for Pleasure Policy 2024-2025

Statement

Here, at Southwick Community Primary School, we believe that all pupils deserve a rich curriculum which encourages and promotes the extensive reading of whole books and other types of text. We believe that the active encouragement of reading for pleasure is a core part of every child's educational journey. Extensive reading and exposure to a broad range of texts (in all subjects) contributes to each and every child's educational achievement.

As a whole staff, we aim to promote with eagerness the idea of Reading for Pleasure and at school we aim to provide a range of books and texts for all ages, abilities and subjects. With this in mind we aim to provide a number of opportunities for sustained reading from a range of self-chosen fiction and non-fiction texts from our classroom libraries and school library.

We believe that ALL staff should be reading role models for pupils, encouraging them to read widely through reading time in school, shared reading with parents and even, recommendations from their own reading. At Southwick Community Primary School, children should be able to talk about and discuss books and different authors with peers and staff. Teachers will provide these opportunities by having a 'Class Book', having an Author of the month and a variety of Reading projects that will occur throughout the school year.

"All Schools should develop policies to promote reading for enjoyment throughout the school."

Aims and Objectives

At Southwick Community Primary School the active and encouragement of Reading for Pleasure is a core part of every pupils' educational entitlement, whatever their background or attainment. We take the view that extensive reading and exposure to a wide range of texts makes a vital contribution to every child's educational achievement and thus Reading for Pleasure at Southwick Community Primary School aims to establish each and every child as a life time reader. The staff aims to ensure that the children understand that Reading for Pleasure will not only improve their academic skills but their personal development too. We aim to make reading a natural part of their everyday life.

This policy (although clearly linked to the Literacy Policy) must stand alone in its promotion and encouragement of reading as a pleasurable and exciting activity for the children of Southwick Community Primary School. This policy also establishes the philosophy that our school holds on the importance of reading for all of our children.

"Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of their deep and continuing needs, is good for them."

Maya Angelou

Access to a wide range of texts/books

The school ensures that there is a range of books in school that the children are aware of and can read at home or at school. This is done by making sure each classroom's library is fully stocked and

that the whole school library also has a wide variety of suitable books for ALL children. Books and texts might include:

- Decodeable phonics books
- The Oxford Reading Tree Scheme
- The Project X scheme
- Picture books
- Age related fiction and non-fiction books
- Weekly magazines and newspapers
- Internet based texts
- Children's own work (within books and displays)

The awareness of these books in school is promoted by our 'Reading Ambassadors', who meet each week to discuss reading in school and deliver messages to their teacher and class. These messages also include the delivery of new books, the ordering of new books and reading competitions etc.

"If you read the books that everyone else is reading, you can only think what everyone else is thinking."

Haruki Murakami

The Role of the Teacher

In ALL key stages of the school, teachers should actively encourage a love of reading (or listening to books being read to them) in order to promote reading of a wide range of books. This is done through discussion of books of personal interest, through the discussion of books that the children love and even through the discussion of a wide selection of authors. Teachers should be encouraging children to share their reading, make their own recommendations and starting book clubs. Teachers should foster a love of reading that is passed on to others, with the support of the 'Reading Ambassadors' and Senior Leaders within school. Reading displays, reading competitions and the use of 'Reading Buddies' for the younger children also support the love of reading and books here at Southwick Community Primary School. Designated times, where the whole school reads at the same time ('Reading at the End of the Day') also helps to stimulate the love of reading.

Further to this the teacher should model reading out loud and all pupils should be encouraged to read aloud in lessons. This can be done through ALL lessons, Guided Reading, Poetry reading, 'Reading at the End of the Day' and one to one reading time with the teacher. This creates a positive reading experience to engage pupils in a variety of ways; it helps develop confidence, read with expression and even build upon the performance element of reading.

"The fire of literacy is created by the sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading."

Mem Fox

The Profile of Reading for Pleasure

Reading Time

Reading slots in each key stage/class have been built in to each day, allowing children Reading for Pleasure time. Children get 15 minutes to read something they enjoy reading (this does not have to be their levelled book), whilst the teacher can also choose to read too or spend this time reading one to one and allowing those children, who don't read often at home some quality time with an adult.

The key to this time being successful is:

- Ensuring all staff and pupils participate
- Consistency as to when and how often this takes place (at least once a day)
- Making sure ALL pupils are supported by giving them access to something they will enjoy reading. ALL classrooms have their own library and all children have access to the school library

In all key stages, pupils should be encouraged to read whole books (not matter the length) and talk about them when possible. In Upper Key Stage 2 children are encouraged to keep a record of their reading through their 'Daily Notes' sheets and parents are also involved by recording when their child has read at home, on top of their phonics or levelled books.

Teachers are encouraged to share their own recommendations this could be by selecting an author for a specific child or getting a child to read their favourite book, which is displayed on their door. Children are also encouraged to recommend books and share with their peers. Once a book has been read child should write a book review, which will be displayed in the school library.

School Assemblies

School Assemblies are a perfect place to promote reading within school. During a Monday Assembly the member of SLT doing the assembly will talk about a book that they loved to read as a child, they will then discuss this book with the school and read part of it out. Each week at the beginning of an MLT assembly a 'Reading Ambassador' will share with the school what they are reading and also, read a section of their book out. Other members of the school will then be asked if they would like to read part of their book out at the start of an assembly.

The 'Reading Ambassadors' will also read out any New Reading Information in assembly and let the school know if there are any events or competitions coming up.

World Book Day

World Book Day is in March every year. During this day we plan as much around reading as we can. We invite authors into school, we have parental workshops and the year 6 children even do an assembly based around Reading for Pleasure and being able to read anywhere you want. We encourage children and staff to come to school as their favourite book characters and promote reading and the discussion of reading throughout the day. Children are asked to bring their favourite book to school and share their recommendations with everyone else. This is promoted as cross curricular event, where other subjects support the importance of reading within their own subjects too.

Reading Week

This will be a cross curricular event where the emphasis will be on reading within and across all subjects in school. We will promote and encourage non-fiction and fiction across all subjects. Each subject area organises activities involving pupils reading, and invite a number of guest authors and speakers to give presentations and workshops about the importance of reading in their specific subject.

Parental Involvement

Children are encouraged to read as much as they can both in and of school, parents are also supported in their encouragement of this too. We have built a whole school reading initiative into each class which promotes parental involvement for reading with their children. Parents have been given a poster of 'How to read with your child' and are offered daily support from teachers.

There are a variety of Reading Workshops throughout the school year that parents are invited to. These workshops include Phonics lessons, Traditional Tales and Nursery Rhyme Sessions.

There will be workshop that includes everything we do in School so parents can see Reading from all levels. During this workshop there will be sample Guided Reading Sessions, 'End of the Day Reading' etc. and the opportunity to ask any reading related questions.

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull

Reading for Pleasure across the School

To supplement Reading for Pleasure time, a range of activities, schemes and initiatives have been rolled out across school to further promote the love of reading throughout our school. These include:

- **Daily Note taking (in Upper Key Stage 2):** Pupils recording what they have read, what they enjoyed, how it might be improved etc. They could also keep a log of books and authors they have read, which will further develop their discussions around reading.
- **Recommended Reads:** Pupils (and/or the teacher) present their 'Recommended Reads' on display or in a class discussion.
- **Review Wall:** Pupils display their book reviews for others to see. This, once again, will promote discussion about reading throughout the school. This can also be used as a discussion wall, where children leave comments (rather than a full review) about certain books encouraging other children to read or try a book by the same author etc.
- **Accelerate Reader:** This programme is used in school to promote understanding and the comprehension of a text. Children can also use this at home, where once again we are promoting parental involvement.
- **Author of the month:** A different author will be out outside each classroom at the start of each month, this will be put there by the 'Reading Ambassadors', the teachers job is to tell the children as much about the author as possible. Children should then be able to discuss different authors with the peers.

- **'Reading Buddies'**: Our Year 6 children have been set up as 'Reading Buddies', they have a timetable to follow and they go and read with the younger pupils of the school
- **'Get Caught Reading'**: This display is constantly added to. Staff, children and parents add pictures of themselves reading in unusual places.
- **Reader of the Week**: Each week a year group will be chosen to then choose a 'Reader of the Week', who will be awarded with a certificate in Assembly. They will be awarded this certificate for not only engaging in their own reading but promoting reading throughout school too.
- **'Reading Ambassadors'**: These children pass reading messages around school and at times will even go on secret reading missions. These children help keep the libraries stocked, they make sure all books have Accelerate Reader stickers on and they keep the displays up to date too. The 'Reading Ambassadors' have a very important job in promoting reading throughout school to ALL children and ALL staff.

Reviewing the Policy

The policy will be reviewed September 2025 and annually thereafter.