

How will my child learn to read at Lydlynch Infant School?

Phonics:

We begin our journey to read with phonics. At Lydlynch Infant School we use Little Wandle Letters and Sounds to support your child with learning phonics. This means the children learn how to “read” the sounds that are within words and how these sounds can be written down. We teach the children how to segment (break up) and blend (put back together) sounds to read and write words, using a range of strategies. The children also spend time practising reading and spelling our tricky words. Home learning is sent home each week enabling parents to understand what will be taught so learning can be reinforced at home. The children practise their reading with books that match the phonics and the ‘tricky words’ they know, and it is incredible to watch their confidence flourish.

How can I help my child learn to read?

We know how important it is to work in partnership with parents and carers to help children to develop their confidence with their reading. Reading together at home is one of the easiest but most important ways in which you can help your child. As you share books together, you will help to develop your child’s reading skills and show them how enjoyable and important reading is.

Each week your child will bring home a phonics book matched to their phonics learning (this will be in an e-book format as well as an actual book), and a library book. The reading practice book (phonics book) should be easy for your child to read, and the sharing book (library book) will be one to develop reading for pleasure. This won’t be able to be read alone and should be shared together. In Year 2, once your child can read fluently and successfully blend, they will have a wide variety of books to take home instead of a phonics book.

We also have a subscription to Collins E-book library, and letters will be sent home with how to access your child’s book each week at the beginning of the school year.

We have a home reading diary where you can write when you have read with your child. We award prizes to motivate and encourage a love of reading. This could be library books, phonics books, or books you have at home. Please record the title and date in the home reading diary. Teachers monitor the number of times your child reads and gives them stamps. Each time they reach 30 stamps they will receive a prize.

What strategies do you use to support my child with their reading?

Phonics is our key strategy which we teach in order to enable children to read the words they see by segmenting and blending, following a well-structured phonics programme. By using the phonics skills that they have learned, children will be confident to tackle new words and go on to become fluent readers. In phonics, children learn phonemes and graphemes and practise the skill of segmenting and blending for word reading.

Guided Reading

As the children become more fluent within their reading, we focus on the child’s blending, prosody and comprehension and understanding of the texts that they have read. We do this through our guided reading sessions and when reading aloud to the children. Throughout the week your child will have the opportunity to read three times a week with their teachers and year group teaching assistants and apply phonic knowledge, tricky word recognition and comprehension. During guided reading sessions children will apply phonic knowledge learnt and taught that week, including tricky words. Our guided reading sessions are carefully planned to ensure there is a focus for developing the children’s comprehension and moving their reading

forwards, some of these strategies include: clarifying, retrieval, explaining, summarising and inference. We support and encourage our children to develop their comprehension by:

- Making connections between the text and our prior experiences, other texts and the wider world
- “read between the lines” to gain a deeper understanding
- Consider how language is used effectively within texts
- Answer simple questions about the text
- Develop new vocabulary through reading

We strongly believe that by developing these strategies within our reading curriculum, our children not only become fluent but also a skilled and analytical reader.

What other opportunities will my child have to read across the curriculum?

Reading really is everywhere at Lydlynch Infant School and is at the heart of our learning. Our children have daily opportunities to enjoy high quality texts and poems as part of our wider curriculum by reading texts which are part of our integrated projects and making connections and links as a class. We believe that reading across the wider curriculum supports our children transition from “learning to read” to “reading to learn” as texts are often used as a driver to support our writing end point and project knowledge, whilst providing a different context for children to practise their reading skills. The children also have regular opportunities within our wider curriculum to read and learn a talk for writing text which supports their oral rehearsal and retelling of stories which supports their confidence.

We have a dedicated time every day where we read a high quality text to the children during story time. Each child also has time to read for pleasure during the school week where they will enjoy reading a story with their friends in our exciting book corners or school library.

All about our wonderful library at Lydlynch Infant School!

In our school library we have a wide selection of fiction and non-fiction texts to engage the children in reading.

Library Sessions

Each class has a library session each week where the children can browse the books or sit and read, either on their own, with reading buddies or with their friends, sharing stories or facts with each other.

Books are displayed to engage and inspire the children to choose books of their interest or new books. There is also a #shelfie that changes regularly and is linked to events the children may or may not be familiar with. These books are also available to borrow.

Story Club

KS1 children can take part in Story Club, where we enjoy sharing lots of stories with each other. The children love spending time in the library, listening to and sharing stories.

Hampshire Picture Book Award

Year 1 take part in this award each year and it is so exciting. They get to read the 4 chosen stories lots of times, so they know them well and do activities related to them. They also find out about each author. Then they get to vote for their favourite. The children love the fact that it is only them that vote not the adults. There is always much excitement when we find out the winning book!