



Growing together, Every day, In every way.

Phonics and Reading Approaches at High Meadow Infant School

At High Meadow Infant School we recognise the impact and power of a rich and engaging reading curriculum. We also recognise the importance of a quality, well -structured phonics approach that gives children the essential skills to becoming a life-long reader. With both of these in mind, our approach is as follows...

Phonics

We use a mixture of Letters and Sounds, Jolly Phonics and Phonics Play to teach phonics across Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The children are taught phonics in their own classes, every morning from 9.00am - 9.20am. If we find that a child does not respond to learning to read through a phonics based approach we use a strategy called Precision teaching. We have the highest of expectations for all of our children and we expect most of them to progress at the rate outlined below...

High Meadow Infant School Phonics Expectations

	Reception ROBINS			Year 1 BLACKBIRDS			Year 2 BARN OWLS		
	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Phase 1 7 weeks									
Phase 2 6 weeks									
Phase 3 12 weeks									
Phase 4 7 weeks									
Phase 5 24 weeks									
Phase 6 23 weeks									





Growing together,

Every day,

In every way.

Reading

Even before children start at High Meadow they are given a quality picture book when the reception teacher visits them on their first home visit. This is the start of an engaging and rich reading journey that every child at High Meadow will experience.

Reading for Pleasure

To encourage a passion for reading every child will...

- Receive a book to keep on their first home visit
- Join the local library and meet the librarian when they visit the library in reception
- Choose a book to keep for their birthday
- Receive a book from Santa every Christmas
- Choose a book from the school library every week
- Participate in the annual Book Week event
- Have the opportunity to join the school Book Club
- Have the opportunity to purchase books with their family every year when the Book Fair comes to school
- Be able to choose their reading book for home themselves from a selection appropriate to their reading band

Home readers

Our approach to reading at High Meadow is to provide reading materials which support each phonics stage that the child is at. This allows the child to practice new words and sounds that they have been taught throughout the week. To ensure we do not cap a child's potential and to allow a child to engage in books they think that they might enjoy, every child can pick ANY book from their book band and they can change it as many times a week as long as we see evidence that they have read the book to an adult in their reading diary. To ensure we provide a wide range of books we use books from the following schemes across all classes...

- Oxford Reading Tree
- Songbird Phonics
- Collins Big Cat
- Dandelion Launchers
- Dandelion Readers
- Treetops and Wayland

storytelling schools
where every child is a storyteller



The Warwickshire Consortium
Teaching School Alliance



Growing together, Every day, In every way.

All of the books are book banded using the 'Book Bands for Guided Reading' framework. Our expectations for progression are as follows...

Age Related Expectations	Year group	Reading age	Phonics stage	Colour band
YR beginning	Rec Robins	Below 5.0 years	Phase 1 L&S	Lilac BB No words
YR beginning	Rec Robins	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 2 L&S	Pink BB
YR developing	Rec Robins	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 3 L&S	Red BB
YR secure	Rec Robins	5.0 - 6.5 years 1	Phase 3 & 4 L&S	Yellow BB
YR exceeding	Rec Robins	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 3 & 4 L&S	Blue BB
Y1 beginning	Year 1 Blackbirds	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 3 & 4 L&S	Blue BB
Y1 developing	Year 1 Blackbirds	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 4 & 5 L&S	Green BB
Y1 secure	Year 1 Blackbirds	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 5 L&S	Orange BB
Y1 exceeding	Year 1 Blackbirds	5.0 - 6.5 years	Phase 5 L&S	Turquoise BB
Y2 beginning	Year 2 Barn Owls	6.5 - 7.5 years	Phase 5 L&S	Purple BB
Y2 developing	Year 2 Barn Owls	7.5 - 8.0 yrs	Phase 6 L&S	Gold BB
Y2 secure	Year 2 Barn Owls	8.0 - 8.5 yrs	Phase 6 L&S	White BB
Y2 exceeding	Year 2 Barn Owls	8.0 - 8.5 yrs	Phase 6 L&S	Lime BB
Y3 beginning	Year 3	8.5 - 9.0 yrs		Brown BB





Growing together,

Every day,

In every way.

Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading sessions explicitly teach the children the skills of reading a text, inferring and understanding the meaning as well as allowing them to access a wide genre of texts too. The books we use in Guided Reading include phonics based readers such as Songbirds and Floppy Phonics for our youngest children to high quality picture books for our more able readers. Every child participates in Guided Reading sessions at least once a week.

We also encourage parents to use online reading materials to support their children too...

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/>

Oxford Owl

My class login Help Join us Log in

Oxford Owl

Search this website Quick book search

Enter keyword... GO

Home Learning at home Learning at school Find a book Kids' activities About us Blog

Oxford Owl for Home

Free eBooks for ages 3-11 >

Oxford Owl is packed with expert advice, top tips and activity ideas so you can help your child with reading and maths.