

Parents and Carers,

At The Oaktree School, we consider reading to be of great importance and the key to all other aspects of learning, as it impacts on everything a child does.

In school, your child may experience a wide range of reading opportunities, which include:

- independent reading
- guided reading (Teacher working with a group to develop particular reading skills)
- shared text work in Literacy lessons
- comprehension
- research (using ICT/ reference books)
- group reading (sharing a text with other children)

Some of these may happen in the Phonics, English or Guided Reading session but equally, the children may have these opportunities through other subjects.

This leaflet is designed to help you help your child at home. If you would like any further help with your child’s reading please talk to the teacher.



Guided Reading

Each week the children work with the teacher on a Guided Reading activity. This is a planned lesson giving the teacher opportunity to teach or practice the relevant reading skills for your child’s ability. We use this session to teach different reading strategies, hear your child read and ask comprehension questions to ensure their understanding of the text. In school, we use the Book Band system so the books are colour banded with books on a similar level.

Within each band there are books from a wide range of reading schemes and ‘real books’, so that your child becomes familiar with a range of reading material.

Reception children are heard individually In the Autumn term, before moving on to group reading activities.



Home Readers

Your child will choose a book from their book back every day. Please encourage your child to read this book to you (several times if necessary) until they are familiar with the words and demonstrate a good level of understanding. Always encourage your child to stop if what they have read does not make sense and have another go.

Some home readers have information to help you know what to expect of your child on that level of the book band scheme or a copy of parents/ teachers notes, to show you what questions you can ask your child in order to assess their understanding of the text.

Reading Records

All children in the school are given a Reading Record book. This needs to be brought into school each day with the child’s home reader. We ask parents to comment, sign and date when they hear their child read at home. Targets are linked to book bands and can be found on the back of the reading diaries.