

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

Approach to the teaching of reading at The Ryde

At the Ryde we work hard to encourage a love of reading for all children, whether it is a fiction book, a nonfiction book, a comic, a newspaper article or a website. Throughout their time with The Ryde, children make very good progress in reading which will enable them to succeed in so many other areas.

Through the teaching of reading we aim to:

- give children a lifelong love of reading and books, across a wide variety of texts
- ensure that children have the skills to decode words and texts to develop into confident and fluent readers
- support children who don't make expected progress

Early Years Foundation Stage

Children benefit hugely by exposure to books from an early age. With this in mind, the children have access to a wide variety of books in the Foundation Stage and we regularly read stories during sessions. At The Ryde we teach phonics based on [DfES Letters & Sounds](#) programme. **Letters & Sounds** is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills and consists of six phases. Children are taught these from as soon as they enter Reception and in Year 1 and Year 2.

Letters & Sounds is delivered on a daily basis by a teacher or teaching assistant, trained to deliver phonics effectively. This is the starting point for teaching early reading. Phase 1 begins in the Foundation Stage and is taught across the six areas of learning with activities which encourage general sound discrimination, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and oral blending and segmenting.

The phase 1 skills are built upon during phases 2 and 3. The children are taught at least 19 letters in these early phases and move on from oral blending and segmentation to blending and segmenting with letters. This enables children to read some words and to spell them. Other strategies are also used alongside phonics such as recognition of 'non-decodable words', also known as high frequency words or 'tricky words', syllable division, reading for sense and using picture clues.

Key Stage 1

The daily phonics lessons continue throughout Years 1 and 2 using a range of approaches building on prior learning. This gives children the skills to decode, segment and blend to use in their reading and writing. The children are also taught sight vocabulary and high frequency words as part of phonics teaching.

We use a variety of texts such as [Oxford Reading Tree](#) , [Collins Big Cat](#) and [Dandelion Readers](#) to offer a broad and varied choice of books which appeal to

all children. All our classrooms have access to book corners or libraries. The children take a book home which is matched to the level at which they are reading. Parents and carers are encouraged to listen to their child read and complete the reading record. There are opportunities for parents to come in to school and share books with their children in our well-stocked library.

Reading in Key Stage 2

Reading is a vital skill and should be well established by this time. However, there are some children who may need further support and these children will continue to receive phonics sessions where necessary.

Children are given every opportunity to demonstrate their ability as readers through a range of activities in a literacy rich environment.

Children are regularly read stories and our long and medium term planning makes use of these as a basis for other work. Other opportunities for developing a love of reading include:

- Individual reading to class teachers, teaching assistants, and volunteer helpers.
- Independent reading
- Guided reading
- Reading at home
- Using computers and iPads for research projects
- Topic based reading/research
- Visits from authors to talk about books and reading

Through the above, we teach these seven aspects of reading:

1. Decoding and reading for meaning
2. Finding information
3. Reading between the lines
4. Structure
5. Language
6. Purpose
7. The text and the world

We believe in the value of books and the pleasure they can give. By using different approaches for different children, and a range of texts we hope to inspire children's interest and enthusiasm in books and reading. We aim to enable all children to enjoy reading a range of materials with fluency, accuracy and understanding. We want children to become enthusiastic about reading and consequently become confident and independent learners.