

Misterton Primary and Nursery School

Reading for Pleasure Policy

2023-2024



PHILOSOPHY

At Misterton Primary School we actively encourage reading for pleasure and recognise it as a core part of every child's education, regardless of their background or attainment. We make reading a key part of our curriculum and expose pupils to a wide range of texts in a variety of different situations.

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.

Reading for pleasure aims to establish each child as a lifetime reader. Studies emphasise the importance of reading for pleasure for both educational as well as personal development. They show that promoting reading can have a major impact on children, their future and their life chances.

The Reading for Pleasure policy stands alone focusing on the importance of reading and how we undertake it at Misterton. This policy focuses on the promotion and encouragement of reading as an enjoyable activity.

ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF TEXTS

We give pupils opportunities to read a wide range of texts within the classroom that accommodate all reading ages within a class. These texts include:

- Fiction and non-fiction books
- Picture books (age appropriate)
- Poetry
- Magazines and comics/graphic novels
- Newspapers (First News)
- Internet based texts (Reading Buddy)
- Children's own work (within books and displays)

THE ROLE OF THE LEADER

At Misterton the teachers and other adults have the important role of fostering a love of reading with the pupils. This is done through a wide range of activities:

Regular time spent reading by the teacher

Teachers regularly read aloud to pupils - Studies show that children who are read to aloud are more likely to do better in school both academically and socially. Effective reading aloud time is about creating a positive reading experience to engage pupils, so teachers model their enthusiasm for books and reading them. Teachers pull the class together to share a story or poetry often at the end of the day, which is valuable wellbeing building time. Teachers do not just read to the class but interact with them through CLIMB and Reciprocal Reading: they ask questions about what has been read or the pictures they have been shown. This helps improve students' comprehension of the story.

As role models to the pupils, teachers model themselves as readers by discussing their own reading experiences with pupils. When choosing books to read aloud, a balance is struck between following the students' preferences and inviting them to try new types of books to expand their horizons and spark new interests.

Actively encourage a love of reading; promote reading of a wide range of books

Through discussing books of personal interest, regularly referencing books and promoting different kinds of books, teachers foster a love of reading that is passed onto the children. Teachers also encourage children to read widely by promoting reading and by using class rewards, reading diaries to stimulate this love of reading and a weekly reading certificate in the Celebration Assembly on a Friday.

Teachers also encourage reading for pleasure by ensuring that pupils can use the class library, that they can choose books to read at home from the take home books selection and that they record and get rewarded for wider reading.

RESOURCES

Every classroom within the school has a class library funded by the PTA with a variety of texts including fiction, non-fiction, texts from different cultures and poetry. There is also the School lending library to borrow books from and the Home reading book scheme.

Reading displays and reading corners

Each classroom within school has a book corner / library that focuses on a love of reading and the promotion of books (e.g. via book review displays, displaying topic books/information, class book covers).

ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE READING FOR PLEASURE

Class novels

Each year group has class novels to be read to, and with, the children and this is focused on within planning. These class novels will also be used in writing and guided reading sessions in conjunction with developing children's wider literacy skills and appreciation of age appropriate, quality texts.

Regular time for students to read self-chosen books silently-DEAR

'DEAR,' (Drop Everything and Read,) happens every day. DEAR allows every child dedicated time for reading for pleasure. The key to a successful 'DEAR' is:

- Getting all staff and students to take part
- Consistency as to when and how often it takes place
- Making sure all pupils are supported by bringing texts to the session or reading one that they have chosen from the class library

Reading Challenges-Summer Reading Challenge/Extreme Reading/Minutes Reading

Pupils are set reading challenges to complete during school holidays. These are encouraged by teachers and rewards given to pupils who are successful with the challenge.

Book Days

Celebrating World Book Day is a good way of promoting reading and creating a buzz around reading. Pupils and staff are given the opportunities to dress up as their favourite book character and discuss this with their class. Activities for the day are based around reading and the sharing of experiences, books and authors.

As part of book days, pupils are encouraged to engage in activities including taking photographs of themselves reading somewhere unusual and making their own books.

Reading Buddy

Reading Buddy is an online reading scheme for EYFS to KS2 and promotes positive pupil behaviours towards reading, including enjoyment, engagement and independence. The books follow a defined, phonics progression which is aligned with the National Curriculum for England (2014).

Pupils have a personal log on and teaching staff are able to set books for children to read.

Teacher Reads

Every teacher in the school displays the book they are reading on their classroom door so that the whole school can see.

READING FOR PLEASURE AND LINKS WITH HOME AND PARENTS/CARERS

Pupils take home school books to read with parents or independently as part of our normal school offer (children who read 1:1, change their books directed by the TA leading).

Information about book days/activities are shared with parents via the school website, newsletters, Facebook and Twitter.

LIBRARIES AND READING FOR PLEASURE

Classroom Libraries

Every classroom within Misterton Primary School will have a Classroom Library or Reading Corner set up to promote reading for pleasure. Each Classroom Library will contain books from a variety of genres, by a variety of authors and cover a wide range of potential areas of interest.

The wide range of categories of reading materials on offer comprise:

- Stories and narrative accounts, e.g. Fairy tales, folk tales, and biographies
- Picture books with thought-provoking images and examples of artistic talent
- Information books
- Miscellaneous reading materials, such as popular magazines and newspapers
- Joke books, comic books, word-puzzle books
- Student-authored books and stories

Research consistently shows that one of the most effective strategies for fostering a love of reading within every child is the creation of an effective Classroom Library, as it serves as a constant stimulus for the child to pick up a book and start reading.

By providing access to a rich Classroom Library, teachers promote increased reading frequency and more diverse reading experiences for each child. In addition, Misterton Primary School believes such libraries will increase pupils' literacy-related skills and promote phonemic awareness, vocabulary, comprehension and writing.

They include the following five important functions of an effectively designed space:

- Provide a central location for classroom reading resources
- Help each child learn about books and the pleasure of reading
- Provide opportunities for independent reading and curricular extension
- Serve as a place where each child can talk about and interact with books
- Support literacy instruction

Children are encouraged to use the School Lending Library to stimulate and support their reading of a wide range of texts from fiction to interest / topic-related non-fiction. Every class,

and every child, will have the opportunity to visit the School Library to borrow and explore the books.

BUDGET FOR BOOKS

An annual budget for books is established to meet the demands and needs for each academic year. The budget takes into account the need to replenish and update stock.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

Professional support, coaching, training and guidance is made available for staff to support their understanding and develop their skills in promoting reading for pleasure through:

- *Staff INSET*
- *Discussions with SLT and English Subject Leader*
- *Discussions and good practice within teams*
- *Wider reading/research on 'Reading for Pleasure'*

SEND PROVISION / ENRICHMENT AND CHALLENGE

As an inclusive school we recognise the need to tailor our approach to support children with SEND as well as those who are identified as benefitting from further enrichment and challenge.

We teach English to all children, whatever their ability. English forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education for all children. We provide differentiated learning to ensure all children make expected progress from their individual start points.

A range of targeted interventions provide opportunities to address gaps in knowledge and understanding / diminish the difference between peers. Pre- requisite skills address the specific needs of individuals and support the application of interventions into classwork.

Policy written by: C. Jones

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