



3rd February 2022

Reading Books at HISN

At HISN, we recognise Reading as an essential life skill that empowers children to achieve their full potential. We have high expectations of our children as readers and have outlined further details below about the way we have organised the reading books since the start of the spring term as well as information about phonics.

EYFS – Nursery and Reception

In EYFS children are encouraged to foster a love of reading through the sharing of quality texts during story times and through planned learning contexts. There is a vibrant reading culture in Nursery and Reception with inviting reading areas for children to explore.

We believe that listening is an essential component of phonics and we have developed a progressive sequence of activities to develop the children's listening skills. In Nursery, children listen to adults emphasizing sounds in speech, share stories and listen to rhyme and alliteration through poetry and nursery rhymes.

In, Reception we begin teaching the Sounds-Write phonics programme, further details can be found on the [Phonics page](#) on the website. Once they are ready, children will also take home decodable reading books, based on the sounds they are learning or the sounds they know and are confident at using.

In addition to this, Nursery and Reception children are given the opportunity to borrow books from the class library to share with an adult at home. These books are to further enhance a love for reading and may be beyond the stage the child is currently at. However, by sharing with an adult at home, we hope to encourage children to develop a lifelong love of books.





Organisation of Reading Books in Reception

In Reception, when the children are ready, we use a mix of Collins Big Cat and Sounds-Write phonic reading books to introduce the children to their own reading books. These are aligned with the Sounds~Write phonics programme that we use for teaching phonics and spelling. When staff are changing children's reading books, they match the books to the children's current unit within the Sounds-Write programme or their reading readiness. Books are changed once a week.

KEY STAGE 1 – Year 1 & Year 2

Phonics is still a major part of children's progress in reading at Key Stage 1 and children continue to receive daily phonics sessions using the Sounds~Write phonics scheme.

Whole class shared and guided reading

Year 1 and 2 teachers will also share quality texts with the children, discussing the text and asking focused questions. Children in Year 2 take part in whole class guided reading every fortnight. This involves sessions which focus on looking at a text more closely, discussing vocabulary, answering a variety of questions and developing inference skills.

Organisation of Reading Books in Year 1 and Year 2

School reading books are carefully selected to match the children's individual phonics knowledge and reading ability.

Books children take home include those from publishers such as; Sounds-Write, Dandelion and Collins Big Cat.

The reading books across the school have been organised to expose children to the letter sounds and spelling strands the children are learning in their phonics lessons in class. This ensures that when staff are changing children's reading books, they are matching the books that they read to their reading abilities. Children will work at their own pace through the books only moving on when teachers feel they are ready to progress. Movement through these books is dependent on the ability to decode sounds. Once children are fluent readers there is an expectation that they can show an appropriate comprehension of texts they meet. Books are changed once a week for most children.





Hampton Infant School & Nursery



We have had lots of positive feedback from children and parents this term in relation to the new reading books the children are reading. If you have any questions please do speak to your child's class teacher.

Kind regards,

Claire Tester

Head of School

