

The Importance of Reading

The importance of reading for children cannot be underestimated. Reading for pleasure can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing and their mental health.

Engaging with books allows us to be transported to other places and worlds. We can become immersed in the lives of fictional characters or learn more about the world around us. Reading is a key life skill. It is placed at the heart of our curriculum; we have carefully selected texts which will ignite children's imagination, inspire their curiosity and provide a window to the world.

Home and School Partnership

It is crucial for both school and home to actively teach their child to read. We need you to create a home environment where reading is encouraged and seen as a pleasurable experience.

Spending just 10-15minutes a day reading with your child will be invaluable in developing their ability and desire to read and learn.

Reading Variation

At Steyning CofE Primary school, we recognise the importance of a varied reading diet. It is important that children are exposed to a range of reading materials from a young age. Listening to your child read could include them reading a recipe, instructions for a game, lyrics to a song, text in a leaflet, newspaper or magazine or reading out a letter or postcard from someone. All of these offer a different reading experience, highlighting the importance of reading in every day life and exposes them to different language and how texts are presented differently which are all part of the National Curriculum for Reading.



High-quality Books

We will ensure that your child has a reading book which is suitably pitched to build both confidence as a reader and fluency.

We will also provide your child with a free-choice book from their class library for enjoyment. Allowing children free choice helps them to develop their identities as a reader as they learn which books/authors they like a which they do not. We are extremely lucky to not only have class libraries but also a school library and reading nooks around the school.

Supporting your Child

- Aim to read/ hear your child read at least 3 times per week.
- Log your child's reading in their Reading Record book.
- Make reading time pleasurable by finding a quiet, comfortable space attention.
- Ask your child simple questions as they read to check their understanding.
- Use positive language and praise their reading efforts.
- Read to your child as part of your evening routine. This builds vocabulary, feeds imagination and can even improve sleep patterns.
- Ask them about the books/stories they are reading at school.



"Do Everything in Love; we do our best in all we do and all we say with God's help."