

# **BROUGHTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

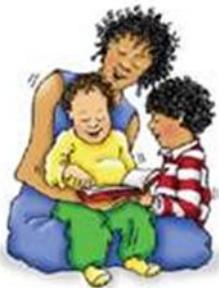


**Reading Advice for Parents**

**June 2016**

At Broughton Primary School, after researching reading practices, we have reviewed and updated our reading policy so that it reflects best practice.

Research shows that regular reading for pleasure can be linked to better progress in maths, vocabulary and spelling between the ages of 10-16.



Research also indicates that children whose parents regularly read aloud with them in the first year of primary school perform much better in reading at age 15 than those whose parents rarely read to them.

As parents, we encourage you to read to, read with and discuss stories and words with your child every day.



We encourage you to celebrate words and sounds, have fun with stories and find things to talk about in your everyday environment- newspapers, texts, web pages, apps, comics, shop signs, as well as books.



You may not know that radio, TV and film are also considered to be texts and, therefore, we encourage children to discuss how meaning is created in these texts also.

## How do we teach reading in P1 -3?

In P1-3 children are developing their recognition of sounds and letter patterns. We predominantly use books from the Oxford Reading Tree to encourage early reading skills in class which we then send home for children to practice with. Repetition and familiarity encourage confidence in early readers.

These books are chosen to correspond with the literacy programme we are following so that children can practice the new sounds and common words we are teaching.

We encourage parents to ensure that their child completes reading homework and encourage them to ask questions about characters, events and themes in the story.

## How do we teach reading in P4-7?

From P4 onwards, the children work in reading groups of similar abilities 3 times a week and work in mixed ability groups once a week.

The technical aspects of reading continue to be the focus in class. Teachers focus on reading fluency, the effect of punctuation, structure, reading for meaning and writer's craft in group reading lessons. The texts used for class teaching remain in school.

## Home Reading Books in P4-7

However, we recognise that for children to become fluent, habitual readers they must practice using books they enjoy. Therefore, children choose their own reading book to practice with at home.

The children are asked to keep a record of what they read and teachers monitor this. But, the key purpose of home reading remains reading for enjoyment and reading practice.

# Home Reading Books

School Stage	Reading Homework
P1	Reading books sent home twice weekly. Flashcards and reading challenges sent home fortnightly.
P2-3	Reading book sent home each week. Flashcards and reading challenges sent home fortnightly.
P4-5	No set reading book sent home. Reading for pleasure set for homework. Homework challenges set monthly.
P6-7	No set reading book sent home. Reading for pleasure set for homework. Homework challenges set termly.

\*If a novel is particularly long - such as a Harry Potter text- pupils may occasionally bring the book home for extra reading to maintain an acceptable pace of teaching and interest.

\*If a pupil is still reading at an early level using Oxford Reading Tree stages 1-10 or the equivalent, children may still be using their class book for homework.

## Websites for Parents

[www.readwritecount.scot](http://www.readwritecount.scot)

[www.scottishbooktrust.com](http://www.scottishbooktrust.com)

[www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/parentzone)

[www.scholastic.co.uk](http://www.scholastic.co.uk)

[www.readingchest.co.uk/book-bands](http://www.readingchest.co.uk/book-bands)

## How do you know the book your child has chosen to read at home is the right level for them?

- Use the 5 finger rule - ask your child to read a page. For each word they cannot read or understand, ask them to put down a finger. They should put down no more than 5 fingers per page.
- Use a website which shows book bands - groups books by reading ages.