

# Reading At Buckstones

How you can help your child  
with their reading?



Parents and Carers,

At Buckstones Primary School, we consider reading to be of great importance and the key to all other aspects of learning as it impacts on everything a child does.

In school, your child may experience a wide range of reading opportunities, which include:

- Independent reading
- Guided reading (teacher working with a group to develop particular reading skills).
- Shared text work in Literacy lessons
  - Comprehension
- Research (using ICT/reference books)
- Group reading (sharing a text with other children).

Some reading may happen in the Literacy/Guided Reading session but equally, the children may have these opportunities through any other subjects.

This leaflet is designed to help you, help your child at home.

## How you can help your child with their reading

If children see parents reading, they'll copy. Don't feel guilty about relaxing with a book, a newspaper or magazine. You are setting a good example.

Spend a little time reading with (or to) your child every day, even if it's just a few minutes. It soon becomes a special time that'll you both value.

Letting children choose their own books gives them a chance to express themselves and give children real confidence.

Reading with your child can be a way of giving homework support, but you don't need to just read the books issued by school. You could encourage your child to also read magazines, newspapers, non-fiction books and comics.

Reading with your child should be fun and relaxed, and should give your child the chance to practice their reading skills without fear of 'getting it wrong'.

Every so often pause and ask questions, look at illustrations and discuss interesting points or words in texts.

## Guided Reading

In school the children work with the teacher on a Guided Reading activity. This is a planned session giving the teacher opportunity to teach or practice the relevant reading skills for your child's ability. We use this session to teach different reading strategies, hear your child individually and ask questions to ensure understanding of the text.



## Reading at home

Please encourage your child to read their book to you (several times if necessary) until they are familiar with the words and demonstrate a good level of understanding. Always encourage your child to stop if what they have read does not make sense and have another go.

## Reading Journals

All the children in the school are given a Reading Journal. This needs to be brought into school each day with the child's home reading book. We also ask parents to sign and date when you hear your child read at home. If you wish to make a comment when you hear your child read there is space for you to do so.

Pointers will be sent home to help your child with their reading and questions you can ask them when you read together.

## Keywords

Each week words are sent home for you to help your child learn to read. We continue to do this until they are able to read the first 100 most common words independently.



## Reward for Reading

Your child will be rewarded for efforts made with reading. A good reader is not a child who races to the top of a reading scheme but one who has a breadth of reading experiences and can discuss, predict, explain etc. a variety of texts. As a school we will offer the children a range of opportunities to develop these skills.

Infants will receive a gold sticker on their book mark if they have:

Read and talked about their book every night (signed by Parent). They can read their own books in between book changes.

Once they have filled their book mark they will receive a certificate and 2 book marks filled they will be presented with a book.



A child who follows this path will be a successful learner.