



Curriculum statement for Phonics and Early Reading

Subject aims: what do we want the children to learn and why

At Whipton Barton Federation, we aim for all of our children to leave our school as readers. We do this by providing them with high-quality systematic phonics, taught daily, access to a range of high quality texts in our classrooms and library and sending books home which match to their phonic knowledge. To achieve this aim, we believe that it is everyone's responsibility to create this ethos and that is why we refer to all of our staff as Reading Teachers.

How the subject is organised and taught

Read Write Inc is a comprehensive program designed to develop children's phonic knowledge, reading and writing skills holistically. The children are assessed half-termly and streamed successfully according to their phonics knowledge. We currently run 16 groups ranging from teaching initial sounds, learning to blend words, and reading with fluency and expression. The sessions are planned for using the Ruth Miskin Handbooks. Each reading teacher is provided with a weekly timetable with each of the learning activities planned for. They are structured with a clear purpose and this purpose is made clear to the children daily. This ensures consistency throughout the groups and good progress and outcomes for all. The ethos of the program centres on the five P's – Purpose, Participation, Praise, Partners and Pace. The Reading Teacher's work hard to ensure this is at the heart of learning and children know what to expect from each session because of this.

What subject-specific characteristics do we want children to develop?

As a result of the successful implementation of the program, our children are able to:

- Participate actively in an engaging phonics session, where they are applying their sound knowledge into spelling and reading instantly.
- Read with increased ease, fluency and enjoyment to a range of audiences – peers, teachers and parents.
- Successfully use a range of strategies to write with independence.
- See themselves as a fantastic reader and writer who can access the whole curriculum with confidence.