

We are a Reading School!

Our mission

**First children must learn to read – only then can they read to learn.**

At Goldthorn Park Primary school our aim is to teach all children to read fluently and to develop a passion for reading. Reading is the single most important thing a child will learn to do. Reading develops a child's brain, provides a window into the world around them and helps them to do better in all school subjects.

The school's partnership with parents is vital to ensure that our children are able to become happy and successful readers. We expect parents to hear their children read at home for ten minutes per day. We send home reading books and reading records to all children.

At Goldthorn Park Primary School we teach children to read using synthetic phonics. To do this we follow an inclusive, daily, rigorous literacy programme called Read Write Inc. This is taught with the help of Fred the frog and the programme initially teaches children to learn to read the 44 common sounds in the English language. From this solid foundation of phonetic knowledge, children learn to sound-blend words to read. Children from the Foundation Stage to Year 6 are grouped according to their reading ability which means that teachers can focus on exactly what the children need, challenging and supporting where necessary and ensuring that they become successful and confident readers. When children are fluent readers they start Literacy and Language and are provided with further challenge. Literacy and Language is a complete literacy programme for fluent readers all children in Years 2 to Year 6 read, write and discuss texts with maturity. During Literacy lessons pupils are encouraged to become confident, enthusiastic, critical and independent readers. They are given opportunities to experience print produced in a variety of forms and for a variety of purposes and to read for information, interest and enjoyment. Teachers choose high quality texts linked to topics and the interests of the children. Staff ensure that they are seen as "reading role models" –modelling good reading habits and sharing their reading experiences with pupils regularly. We encourage our parents, carers and families to do the same at home.

Throughout their time at school all children take part in Guided Reading lessons where they work in small groups with the teacher. During these sessions, children take part in motivating reading activities and learn to develop skills of comprehension and inference. Books are selected to meet the needs of all pupils and they can read with about 90 per cent accuracy. Pupils can understand and enjoy the story because it's accessible to them through their own strategies, supported by the teacher. Teachers focus on meaning but use problem-solving strategies to figure out words they don't know, deal with difficult sentence structure, and understand concepts or ideas they have never before encountered in print.

When children encounter barriers to their reading, the school responds to their needs with a range of interventions during school. We use fresh start as an intervention to help struggling readers. We also offer a reading workshop to parents to promote reading. Alongside this Staff are always available to answer any questions or queries parents and carers may have regarding their child's progress in reading.