



A Parents' Guide to Reading at Home.



Our aims for reading at St.Margaret's are that children see reading as an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. We would like them to become confident and fluent readers, who can choose from a wide range of books.

Throughout their time at our school, the help you give your child with reading is very important. The more opportunities your child has to enjoy reading at home the better. Little and often usually works best, so we would ask that you hear your child read or share a book with them every day.



- Choose a quiet time away from distractions like the television or computer games.
- Sit with your child and make it an enjoyable experience. If your child is obviously tired then it is better to choose another time.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement to boost your child's confidence.
- If your child mispronounces or misses some words, try not to interrupt too quickly to give them a chance to self-correct.
- Talking about and being able to understand what has been read is just as important as reading the words accurately.
- Try to read lots of different kinds of books, not just your child's school reading book. Read what your child enjoys!
- Read anywhere - make the most of any times your child has to sit and wait and bring a book with you.



If your child can't read a word you could:

- Help them with the initial sound.
- Help them to blend the sounds together.
- Let them work out the word from the context.
- Read the word for them, especially if a character's name or unusual vocabulary.

Pause first, to give them time to work it out;

Prompt as suggested above and then;

Praise them for trying even if they don't quite get it right.



Please communicate with us at school using your child's reading record. Positive comments or any concerns you may have show your child you are interested in their progress and think it is important.



Which books can my child choose?

We use both reading scheme and 'real' books which are organised into colour bands. Class teachers will advise in reading records on the appropriate colour for your child.

We hope you will enjoy reading at home with your child and thank you for your help in supporting their reading in this way,