



Friday 8th May 2026



Re: Reading and Assessment Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following recent feedback from the Parent Council, we would like to provide some clarity on how we manage reading assessments, grouping, and home learning to best support your child's progress with reading.

Assessment and Grouping

To ensure we are providing the right level of support for every child, we take time each half term to review their progress within the Read Write Inc. scheme. Through this process we assess:

- **Sound Confidence:** Checking which sounds they've mastered and which ones need more practice.
- **Reading Fluency:** From the **Purple group** onwards, we look at how comfortable and smooth their reading is becoming—helping them move from "sounding out" to reading with a natural rhythm.

These assessments help us place children in the group most appropriate for their current stage. It is highly beneficial for children to read a wide variety of texts within their assigned level. Consequently, children may remain in the same group for longer than a half term to ensure their knowledge is secure before moving on.

- **Mixed-Age Groups:** Because reading confidence varies, children from Reception to Year 2 are often grouped together. This ensures targeted teaching tailored to individual next steps rather than age.
- **Additional support:** If a child finds certain sounds a bit tricky or is working hard to find their reading flow, we plan for additional "keep-up" sessions. These are short, friendly bursts of practice tailored to exactly what they need.
- **Progression:** Once a child completes the **Grey book level**, they transition into comprehension-based reading groups.

Home Reading Books

To build confidence, the books sent home each week are texts your child has already read in school. Books are typically sent home on **Wednesday** and should be returned the **following Wednesday**. We recommend reading the assigned book at least three times per week to build mastery. Prompt returns are essential so that all children have access to the full library. If a book is misplaced or not returned, you can access the same texts via the **Oxford Owl e-book service**.

Alongside their phonics book, your child will also choose a **"Reading for Pleasure"** book each week. This is a book for you to enjoy *together*—it might be a bit more challenging for them to read alone, but it's perfect for a bedtime story or a chat about the pictures. This is all about sharing a great story and building a love for books for when they are ready to explore books more independently.

QR Codes and Online Practice

Your child may bring home **QR code stickers** linking to the RWI school portal. These provide:

- Daily sound practice.
- Targeted reading tasks.
- Virtual classroom lessons.

Note: All QR codes are also included in your **half-termly home learning packs**. If a sticker is missed or misplaced, please check the pack or ask your child which sound they practiced that day to find the corresponding link.

As we approach the summer term, many children will transition from learning new sounds to **revision and consolidation**. Consistent practice at home during this phase is vital to ensure reading levels are maintained.

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your child's reading journey.

Kind regards,

Conor McGivern

Early Reading Lead