



Home reading is an important part of children's learning and a supportive way to help children learn to read in a positive and enjoyable way. Although children will be taught to read at school, the home can have a huge impact on children's reading journey by continuing at home.

Children will be given two types of books for home to support their early reading:

- **A reading practice book** which is matched to the child's phonic stage that they can read independently
- **A sharing book** that they can talk about and enjoy with their parent/carer and other family members

There are differences between these two books which they bring home.

The reading practice book

Children need plenty of reading practice at home in order to become fluent and confident readers. Parents' or carer's support is needed to help their child practise reading and develop their fluency with a book. This book will be at the correct phonic stage for your child and should be fully decodable for them. To ensure reading at home is an enjoyable experience and does not feel like a chore, the books sent home should be able to be read by the child with developing fluency and independently. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. The aim is that children should be reading these books without any significant help. The role of the adult at home is to listen with interest and most importantly, encourage and praise, acknowledging the child's achievements (even if, at the early stages, this is only small)

Use the questions in the front of the Reading Record to support with discussion about the book. This reading time should be a positive experience for the child and adult.

The sharing book

If children are to become lifelong readers, it is essential that they are encouraged to read for pleasure. The desire of wanting to read will help with the skill of becoming a reader. To help foster a love of reading, children will take home a book of their choice from the school library after their library session in school. This book is not a book the child will be able to read on their own or independently. This is for the parent/care or other family member to read and enjoy together. It is important that children are involved in the choosing of this book and with help from an adult in school they will be supported in locating and finding books in the school library. The reading questions in the children's Reading Record can be used to help create discussion about the text as well as talking about the pictures, book themes, making predictions, using different voices for the characters, exploring facts in non-fiction texts and building on the interests of the child. Children will have the opportunity to bring home fiction books, poetry and non-fiction, so they can enjoy a range of texts. The goal for this reading time is enjoyment, having fun together and developing a passion and love of books and reading.

Frequency of sending books home

Children will have their reading practice book for approximately a week, they may have this changed more than once and sometimes they will keep the books for longer to build on the fluency with the phonic sounds in the book.

The shared reading book will be taken home on the day of the child's library session and they will keep this at home for the week, until their next library session where the book will be changed.