



EXPLORING ENGLISH: Reading

Intent • Implementation • Impact

Pembroke is a school where we encourage everyone to be **inspired** through faith in God and to live by Christian values so that our **teaching and learning** is of the highest quality, our whole community **flourishes** and we reflect all that is worthy of **praise**.

INTENT	How does reading inspire our children?	Fluent reading is a pathway to so many aspects of life and learning. It helps to promote the acquisition of vocabulary so that in both speech and writing, there is richness and understanding. Reading enables children to develop familiarity with a wide range of sentence structures and we are pleased when our children make links with what they read in their writing. It allows them to nurture their imaginations and open their minds to a world of possibilities! As well as enabling pupils to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know, reading has a vital role to play in giving pupils a chance to develop socially and emotionally. As a result of all this, helping to promote children's enjoyment in reading and to develop reading for pleasure is clearly a high priority. We aim for children to develop good reading habits, an interest in, and love of reading and texts and a view of reading in which they come to recognise the emotional, intellectual, social, cultural and spiritual benefits of reading. We expect our children to appreciate that reading is a life-enhancing skill which will enable them to take a full place in the society in which they live.	
IMPLEMENTATION	How is our teaching and learning in reading organised?	In our school, reading takes place in a variety of ways including daily phonics sessions using Letters and Sounds approaches. These sessions are structured throughout the year and there is a clear expectation of what most children should achieve by the end of each term. Groupings are flexible meaning that there are opportunities to revisit and support all children. Books are chosen which carefully match the phonic skills children are achieving. Quality book talk takes place with individual children and small groups which includes examining the basic features of texts, picking out vocabulary, answering questions about the text, telling stories and making predictions. As children become fluent readers, weekly guided reading sessions in Key Stage 2 have a greater emphasis on the way in which vocabulary is used, examining the clues that would lead us to understand what an author is trying to imply, encouraging more encompassing explanations and empathising with characters in order to fully appreciate a text. There are regular opportunities for individual reading using a variety of reading materials (fiction, poetry and non-fiction, online and 'real' books). We know that reading to children is a hugely valuable opportunity for teachers to convey the wonder of books and their own enthusiasm.	
IMPACT	How does reading help our children to flourish and be worthy of praise?	Children are engaged, happy in their learning and demonstrate positive attitudes towards reading. This is often seen in their interest in bringing books to school and recommending them to their peers. Many of our older children express a desire to support younger children in the school's library. They will reflect on their reading and make connections between this and other areas of learning. We encourage and expect support from parents and carers at home recognising that this partnership leads to greater achievements in reading – and subsequent learning in all areas of the curriculum. Special days such as 'World Book Day' are very well-supported by children and families who respond to engaging ways to show the love of books. Although our aims in reading go deeper than results in national tests, the achievements of our children here are to be commended. Just as importantly, we are proud of the reports of our children that we hear from their high schools where their excellent approaches and attitudes towards learning are frequently commented upon.	