



## Our Reading Curriculum

### Intent

Sacred Heart's curriculum is closely designed around our school's mission and value statements and to support the development and needs of the pupils and families we serve. Our curriculum is designed to allow children to *endeavour, enrich and enjoy* their learning.

Due to the context of our school and the diverse social and economic backgrounds of our families, we have designed a curriculum that includes a wealth of enrichment opportunities our children may not otherwise experience. We also place a high focus on acquiring and understanding vocabulary through high quality texts, which drive most aspects of learning. Reading is at the heart of our school and central to children's learning, from the Foundation Stage communication and language skills are given highest priority.

**As active 'Witnesses' to our Faith, we aim to develop communication skills necessary for learning and life, promoting enjoyment, high expectations and standards in reading, writing, speaking and listening across all subject areas. Children are enabled to express themselves creatively and imaginatively as well as to become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry, drama, non-fiction and multimedia texts.**

### Implementation

Pupils begin to develop their early reading skills through the discrete teaching of phonics using the Little Wandle phonics scheme, which includes the teaching of decoding skills and comprehension. All children have access to age appropriate, decodable books and rigorous and consistent guided reading sessions. Reading is embedded throughout the wider curriculum and is modelled daily through story time, including fiction and non-fiction books. All pupils have opportunities to develop their reading skills daily, and are encouraged to read at home with an adult. We provide a text rich environment, emphasising vocabulary, in order to encourage a positive culture of reading throughout all classes and promote reading for pleasure. Pupils access further reading opportunities within the Write Stuff sessions. The progression of reading skills is carefully monitored and timely interventions put in place. The reading and phonics lead regularly reviews progress and monitors quality and consistency of reading across the school.

### Impact

Upon leaving Sacred Heart, we aspire that our children are fluent, confident and able to use their reading skills to unlock learning in all areas of the curriculum. As we believe that reading is key to all learning, the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the result of statutory assessments. Our children are enabled to express themselves creatively and imaginatively as well as to become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry, drama, non-fiction and multimedia texts.

[Sacred Heart Progression of Skills Document for Reading](#)