

Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School

Reading and Phonics



Phonics and early reading:

At Corpus Christi, early reading is taught using synthetic phonics as the main approach to reading. The school follows the government published programme “Letters and Sounds” which supports us in providing a multi-sensory approach to learning phonics. Phonic lessons take place every day; within these lessons pupils are systematically taught the phonemes (sounds), how to blend the sounds all through the word for reading, and how to segment the sounds in order to write words. Our pupils are taught to use their phonic skills and knowledge as their first approach to reading, but are also taught high frequency words, which do not completely follow the phonic rules.



Additional phonics information:

Phonic Reading Schemes	Read, Write Inc. (RWI) Big Cat Phonics Bug Club Phonics	Teachers use these reading books/schemes to plan and deliver guided reading lessons. These schemes are also used to support and develop reading at home.
Supporting Phonics	1:1 Phonics Intervention (RWI) CODE Phonic and Reading Intervention	If we feel that children across the school need further support in their learning of phonics, an intervention may be undertaken. Interventions are short, focussed teaching opportunities aimed at accelerating learning.
'Fun Phonics' Club	Spring term weekly club led by class teachers	Following rigorous assessment of year 1 pupils, children are invited to attend this club to extend and consolidate their phonic knowledge. These sessions are fun using games, tactile resources, outside areas etc to move their learning forward.
Phonic Screening Check	Yr 1 Phonics assessment	All year 1 pupils undertake this national assessment in June. Children are required to read a range of real words and made-up words – children need to apply their phonic knowledge to decode and read these words.

Reading:

Reading is taught daily here at Corpus Christi; during a reading lesson the teacher will undertake guided reading with a group of pupils each day. These sessions aim to deepen a child's comprehension as well as identify what a child's future needs may be.

All children have reading books to take home. In KS1 children select their home reading books from our colour banded selection – each child is given a specific colour to choose from, this ensures that the books they take home are suitable for their needs. We have invested in our colour-banded selection enabling children to be able to choose from stories, information texts and poetry. We encourage our parents to share these books with their children and ask a variety of questions in order to support their child's level of comprehension as well as their general reading skills. KS1 pupils can also select 1 library book each week to take home and enjoy with their family.



In KS2 children can select their home reading books from our wide variety of colour-banded texts within our school library. Again, children have a specific colour band to select from, in order to meet their needs.

Additional reading information:

Reading Achievement Specialist	HLTA designated to improving reading	Experienced member of staff dedicated to undertaking additional specific, target driven guided reading sessions
Supporting Reading	Inference Skills FFT Better Reading Programme CODE readers Rapid Readers Toe-by-toe Benchmarking Running records	If we feel that children need further support in their learning of reading, an intervention may be undertaken. Interventions are short, focussed teaching opportunities aimed at accelerating learning.
School Library	Corpus Christi On-site Library,	Open break-times and after school on a Thursday, led by our Reading Achievement Specialist
Book Fairs	Travelling Books	We host book fairs twice per year. The book fair is open after school over multiple nights for parents and children to explore, share and purchase quality texts. Money earned during these fairs is invested directly back into reading books for our school.
Literature Quiz	Portsmouth School Library Service	City-wide quiz aimed at year 5.6 pupils undertaken annually. Selected children join pre-quiz club to share and unpick texts.

Book Award	Portsmouth School Library Service	Year 1 and year 5 opportunity to share new texts from popular authors. Children vote upon best text. Book award texts are incorporated into guided reading planning.
Local Library Visits	North End Library	Library visits are undertaken each term, usually linked to a theme.
Author Visits	Portsmouth School Library Service	We host an author visit annually and invite schools from our local geographical area to attend also.
Focus Authors/texts	Termly focus authors/texts for each phase	Each phase has a focus author/text each term; these should be reflected in our reading areas. Texts / authors are enjoyed during shared reading time and may also be planned into guided reading and writing.

