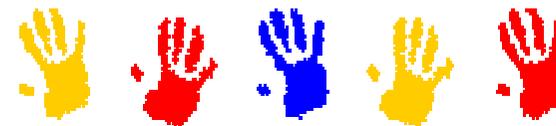




Every child needs to:



- ☺ Be read to regularly.
- ☺ Follow the pictures as an adult reads.
- ☺ Talk about what is happening at each picture and what might happen next.
- ☺ Talk about characters; who they are, what they do, what personality they have and why they do what they do.
- ☺ Be encouraged to tell the story in their own words and never be forced to read the words of a picture book unless they volunteer to with a word they recognise.
- ☺ Be praised, praised, praised! Learning to read is hard and children should never be made to feel they are anything other than successful at this crucial stage.
- ☺ Undertake the weekly reading activity as a fun and enjoyable task.
- ☺ Practise reading from a "controlled vocabulary" book when it is sent home and have praise heaped upon their efforts.
- ☺ Be made to feel successful.



Parents in Partnership



Reading Together in the Early Years



"We want children to become confident and enthusiastic readers; to feel the power of being literate."



Books and stories hold a world full of magic and imagination for us all. Becoming a reader provides the key to this world. We believe that children should have access to books from the earliest age and many children come to school already having a rich diet of books at home. But whatever their experience we build upon the knowledge they have and help them to learn to read with confidence, accuracy, independence and real understanding. Learning to read well is a key to academic and social success.



At Shiphay we have a real love of books and stories. We have a rich range of resources and give children the opportunity to read a breadth of books. We do not believe in using one reading scheme, which gives the impression that children have made rapid progress. We believe in offering children challenge and support as a recipe for success.

During the day all children are taught the skills for reading. We teach the mechanics: using phonics (sounds) and whole words to make sense of the printed world but primarily we help children to understand what they are reading; comprehension. The search for meaning is paramount. Why else would we read?

What you can do to best support your child to read confidently is to give them the opportunity to practise at home. The page opposite outlines our approach to reading in Reception

Reading in Reception

- ☺ Children will be surrounded by stories right from their first day in school. We have many beautiful picture books for children to share and experience.
- ☺ Early reading is primarily about the child using pictures to make sense of a story and listening to adults model reading. Children need to be able to tell a story in their own words; at this stage the words are only for adults to read aloud and not for the child to attempt to decode.
- ☺ We treat all children as readers, accepting their version of stories as well as sharing the author and illustrator's words and pictures.
- ☺ Understanding the story, being able to talk about what is happening, what might happen and how this links with stories they have read before are key skills.
- ☺ Without these skills the child will not be able to read effectively. They may be able to read the words (decode) in a simple book but if they do not understand what is happening, in the widest sense, they will not be able to progress beyond an initial stage of competence.
- ☺ Understanding the story or **COMPREHENSION** is the most vital skill children need as they progress through school. This is very time consuming and home is the best place to practise.
- ☺ Parents can best support their child by undertaking the tasks on the back of this leaflet as often as possible and preferably daily for about 10 minutes in a quiet place
- ☺ In school we will be teaching the other reading skills and sometimes children will bring a "controlled vocabulary" (reading scheme) book home to practise reading the words they "know". They will not be placed on a reading scheme for home reading, only for developing skills in taught sessions in school.
- ☺ A reading task will be sent home weekly to support the development of word building skills.

