



## Tips for parents/carers

### to promote a love of Reading at home

Reading for pleasure supports children to develop their reading skills and will enhance their vocabulary both verbally and in their writing. Reading is the key to success in almost every subject across the school curriculum – the more our children read, the more they know! With this in mind, we have created some top tips for parents/carers to help motivate and support their child's reading journey at home...enjoy and happy reading!

- ❖ Start a reading challenge – Try making a 'Reading Passport' where your child earns a sticker for every book they read, with a reward (perhaps buying a new book) when they've worked their way through a specified number.
- ❖ Join a children's book club! There are a number of online book clubs such as Scholastic Kids' Club, where children can upload reviews, enter competitions, read excerpts from new releases and take part in interactive quizzes.
- ❖ Encourage children to read aloud – to you, to friend/family or even to their toys. Hearing their own voice helps children practise their speaking and builds confidence with reading.
- ❖ If your child isn't keen on reading fiction, look for information texts about your child's favourite hobbies and interests, whether its football, horses, space or science – fiction or non-fiction, it all counts as reading!
- ❖ Share books with friends. This is a great way to keep your child topped up with new reading material and to encourage them to read texts they may not have discovered otherwise.
- ❖ Encourage your child to take a book with them wherever they go, so they've always got something to fill the time.
- ❖ Make your child the star of the book! Personalised books are an enormous hit with children, putting them right at the heart of the story.
- ❖ Encourage children to read to their pet: a willing and uncritical listener. Reading to their pet builds their confidence and encourages them to look forward to reading to an audience.
- ❖ Set aside family reading time each day or at least several times a week – make this a special time when family members relax and enjoy reading. Older children can read to themselves and parents/carers or siblings can read aloud to younger children.
- ❖ Make regular trips to the library – spend time browsing with you child for interesting books and magazines they might enjoy and then share them at home together.
- ❖ Listen to your child read – spend dedicated time daily if possible to hear your child read; supporting their reading journey, asking questions about the text and become immersed in the story with them. This is invaluable for your child and will help to promote your child's love of reading.
- ❖ Finally, be a model parent! The best reading role models are in the home: brothers, sisters, parents, grandparents – so make sure your child sees you reading for pleasure!