
PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

RECEPTION PARENTS – SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT THE
START OF THEIR READING JOURNEY

WELCOME & OVERVIEW

- Purpose: To explore how you can support your child's early reading journey.
- Topics:
 - Why reading matters in Reception.
 - Benefits of reading with your child.
 - Practical ways to support reading at home.

WHY EARLY READING MATTERS

- Reading is the foundation for all learning.
- Helps develop language, imagination, and communication.
- Builds focus and listening skills.
- Encourages a lifelong love of books and stories.



THE READING JOURNEY IN RECEPTION

- Children begin to connect sounds with letters (phonics).
- Recognising high-frequency and tricky words.
- Developing comprehension through discussion.
- Learning to enjoy books through story time and shared reading.



BENEFITS OF READING TOGETHER

- Strengthens parent-child bonds.
- Expands vocabulary and understanding of the world.
- Encourages empathy and imagination.
- Improves concentration and attention span.
- Builds confidence and motivation to read.

HOW TO READ WITH YOUR CHILD

- Choose a quiet, comfortable space.
- Let your child hold the book and turn pages.
- Talk about the pictures and predict what might happen next.
- Use expression and excitement when reading.
- Re-read favourite books to build familiarity.



PHONICS AND EARLY WORD RECOGNITION

- Children learn to match sounds (phonemes) to letters (graphemes).
- Blend sounds to read words (e.g., c-a-t = cat).
- Recognise common sight words ('the', 'said', 'to').
- Encourage your child to use their phonics skills when reading.



SUPPORTING READING AT HOME

- Read daily – even for 10 minutes makes a difference.
- Model reading – let your child see you read.
- Visit the library regularly.
- Praise effort, not perfection.
- Create a positive routine around reading time.

TALKING ABOUT BOOKS

- Ask open-ended questions:
 - 'What do you think will happen next?'
 - 'Why do you think the character did that?'
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words.
- Discuss new words and their meanings.

IF YOUR CHILD IS RELUCTANT TO READ

- Keep reading fun – no pressure or testing.
- Let your child choose books they enjoy.
- Try comics, magazines, or audiobooks.
- Celebrate small successes and progress.

THANK YOU!

- Questions or comments?
- Let's work together to nurture a love of reading!