



### A guide to support reading at home - Reception & KS1

At Tickton CE Primary we acknowledge that reading is not just an essential life skill but also a gift that can enhance imaginations and offer a world of enjoyment and learning. Therefore, reading is the main focus for much of the homework we set. Reading at home is often important preparation for our guided reading sessions, enabling your child to fully access the curriculum. It should take high priority and be given time and attention. You can make all the difference to your child's success!

In Class R and Class One we ask that children read their school reading books three times a week at home. Parents should sign each time their child reads in the home school reading record so that children can be rewarded at school with a reading sticker. In Class R books are changed twice a week and in Class One, books can be changed daily if children hand them in.

In Class Two children are expected to read their school reading book twice a week and then to read a third time with a book of their choice. Again, all three reading sessions should be recorded in the home school reading record and signed by an adult so that we can reward your children.

Families have asked how they can encourage children to read at home. Here are some suggestions from the National Literacy Trust website that could help.

**Read yourself!** Set a good example by sharing your reading. Let your children see that you value books and keep them at home.

**Keep books safe.** Make your child their own special place to keep their books. Show them how to turn pages carefully.

**Point out words all around you.** Help your child to read the words around them: on food packets in the supermarket, on buses, in newspapers, in recipes.

**Visit your library – it's free to join!** All libraries have children's sections. Many also have regular storytelling sessions.

**Make time to read.** Read a bedtime story with your child every night. Encourage them to share reading with grandparents, brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles.

**Keep in touch with school.** Make sure your child swaps their home reading books regularly at school and try to make a regular time slot of about 10 minutes to hear them read.

**If English is not your family's first language:** You can buy dual language books. You can talk about books and stories in any language.

**Be positive.** Praise your child for trying hard at their reading. Let them know it's all right to make mistakes. Turn off the TV! It's easier for your child to concentrate if there are no distractions.

**Give them time.** Let them make a guess before you tell them the word. Help them to get the first sound or try breaking the word up into smaller sections.

**Point with a finger.** Encourage them to follow the words with their finger.

**Don't make them try too hard!** It doesn't matter if you have to tell them the word sometimes.

**Let them read their favourites.** It's good practice to read the same books over and over again.

**Ask lots of questions.** Check they understand the story by asking them questions about what happens. Use the pictures to explain what's happening.

**Don't read for too long.** A good ten minutes is better than a difficult half hour.