



St Edmund's Reading Policy

Written by: Mr Harding (June 2026)

Aim:

At St Edmund's, we believe that reading is a fundamental skill for life and teaching our children to become fluent, articulate readers is absolutely integral to what we do, ensuring that they possess the essential skills and enthusiasm to learn for the rest of their lives.

It is our aim:

- To teach the essential skills of reading.
- Develop a consistent and clear whole school approach to reading.
- To promote a culture of reading for learning.
- To develop a life-long passion for reading.

'Do you want to know where real magic lives? It lives within the pages of books. Reading for fun can change who you are and who you can be.' Malorie Blackman.

Reading underpins everything we do at St Edmund's. By teaching reading through a variety text types (class readers), we ensure that

children gain a wide understanding of literature and genres. The class readers are clearly displayed outside each classroom. We teach our children to read accurately and fluently using a range of strategies and to understand and respond to what they read through reflection and discussion about the text. Through our curriculum, we hope to encourage children to develop a love of reading and become confident, fluent and independent readers.

Reading skills lessons

Four reading skills lessons (30 minutes) will take place each week.

This will take place across the school from Year 2 up to Year 6.

Teachers model reading strategies during whole class guided reading sessions. Here are the focus skills for each session:

Session 1: Reading fluency and discussion question.

Session 2: Reading fluency and vocabulary.

Session 3: A VIPERS' skill focus. This skill will change each week.

Session 4: Mixture of VIPERS skills.

(Based on the class reader for that half-term)

Reading fluency will be taught through echo and choral reading strategies.

VIPERS skills: Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Summarise.

These are displayed in all KS2 classrooms.

Individual Reading / Reading at home

All children will read 1:1 with an adult in school at least once a week in a guided reading session, to develop their reading fluency. Parents

and carers play a very important role in helping their children to develop their reading skills. We believe it is a team effort. Each child will take home and read a book from the school's reading scheme (Collins Big Cat) appropriate to their ability. The class teacher monitors each child's progress on a regular basis and children will move up book bands using evidence from reading skills lessons, reading assessments and depending on the child's fluency.

Reading for pleasure:

Many exciting and rewarding activities are arranged in school to promote the pleasure and knowledge that can be gained from books, e.g. 'World Book Day' - where children are immersed in storytelling, author quizzes, book discussions and the opportunity to dress up as a book character and share their favourite books. Teachers read to their class everyday, enjoying class books that are linked to the English curriculum.

Support:

Any child who is not making the progress expected is identified by the teacher and support is put in place to further practise their reading fluency and skills. We also run intervention groups for pupils who may need more practise in developing their reading fluency (Catch up phonics) or reading comprehension skills (Reading boosters).

Assessment

Children's fluency is assessed on a regular basis through individual reading as well as in whole class guiding reading skills lessons. In KS2, NFER tests are used to assess reading comprehension termly.

