

# **Rimrose Hope CE Primary School**



## **Reading for Pleasure Policy**

## Aims and Objectives

At Rimrose Hope CE Primary School we actively encourage reading for pleasure and recognise it as a core part of every child's education, regardless of their background or attainment. We make reading a key part of our curriculum and expose pupils to a wide range of texts in a variety of different situations.

At Rimrose Hope we aim that every child becomes a lifelong reader. The national Literacy Trust has noted that becoming a lifelong reader is based on developing a deep love of reading. There is a growing body of evidence which illustrates the importance of reading for pleasure for both educational purposes as well as personal development (cited in Clark and Rumbold, 2006).

The Reading for Pleasure policy, although linked to the English policy, is its own policy focussing on the importance of reading and how we undertake it at Rimrose Hope. This policy focuses on the promotion and encouragement of reading as a pleasurable activity.

## **School Commitment**

### **Access to a wide range of texts/books**

At Rimrose Hope we give pupils opportunities to read a wide range of texts within the classroom. These texts include:

- fiction and non-fiction books
- picture books (age appropriate)
- poetry
- magazines and comics/graphic novels
- internet based texts (Epic)
- other pupils' work e.g. book reviews, work on displays

## **Teacher's role**

At Rimrose Hope the teachers and other adults have the important role of fostering a love of reading with the pupils. This is done through a wide range of activities:

### **Teachers regularly read aloud to pupils**

Studies show that children who are read to aloud are more likely to do better in school both academically and socially. Teachers have a selection of core texts which they read aloud to the pupils throughout the year so that by the end of year 6 the pupils have a common bank of stories that they all know.

Effective reading aloud time is about creating a positive reading experience to engage pupils, so teachers model their enthusiasm for books and reading them. Teachers interact with the pupils during this reading time, sharing thoughts, putting on voices and using actions and asking questions to improve comprehension.

### **Teachers encourage a love of reading and promote the reading of a wide range of books**

As role models to the pupils, teachers model themselves as readers by discussing their own reading experiences with pupils. Teachers also encourage reading for pleasure by encouraging pupils to select books to read at home as part of the reading graduate programme. Children are rewarded for participating in the scheme. The library has a well-stocked non-fiction section and children are encouraged to select books linked to their topics of study in class.

### **Resources are available and promote reading.**

Every classroom in EYFS and KS1 has a class library with a variety of texts including fiction, non-fiction, texts from different cultures and poetry. All children have access to the school library.

### **Activities to Promote Reading for Pleasure**

#### **Class Texts**

Each phase has a core set of high-quality texts that form part of the English Curriculum. In addition to those texts, children in EYFS and KS1 have a dedicated story time each day. Texts are thematic and linked to areas of study in the wider curriculum i.e., PSHE. Once the texts have been read aloud, they are placed within the class library for children to re-read and enjoy during free time. Children in key stage 2 will have a class novel that runs alongside the English scheme. Teachers will spend

time each day reading aloud the novel and promoting reading for pleasure. Novels will be selected by the class teacher and/or the children in the class based on their interests.

### **Graduate Reading Scheme**

All children from Nursery to Year 6 will be given the opportunity to formally graduate in Reading during their time at Rimrose Hope. Children will be given credits for each book they have read or had read to them from an anthology of 100 high quality texts. The aim is for each child to have read 25+ books per year. At the end of the school year, children who have achieved this target will graduate and receive a certificate and a small prize. As part of the graduated reading scheme, children are encouraged to engage in activities including taking photographs of themselves reading somewhere unusual and writing book reviews.

### **Book Days**

Celebrating book days is a good way of promoting reading and creating a buzz around reading. Children and staff are given the opportunities to dress up as their favourite book character and discuss this with their class. Activities for the day are based around reading and the sharing of experiences, books and authors.

### **Book Club**

This is an after-school club for KS2 children. Children are provided with a high-quality text to read each fortnight. The club meets weekly to discuss key themes within the texts. Children attending book club have responsibility for the library and are given the opportunity to read texts to children in EYFS and KS1.

### **Links with home and parents/guardians**

- Pupils take home school books to read with parents or independently every night. Parents fill in a comment in a reading record.
- Information regarding the Graduate Reading Scheme is shared with parents at the beginning of the school year and discussed during parents' evening in the Autumn term.
- Information about book days/activities is shared with parents via the school website.
- Reading workshops are held for parents of children in EYFS
- Guidelines for supporting children at home with reading is available on the school website.

### **Reading for Pleasure across the Curriculum**

At Rimrose Hope we recognise that children often want to read more about the subjects they are learning within the curriculum. To facilitate this we have a range of books linking to areas of learning in science, history and geography, art, computer science and English units of study in the school library. Children are encouraged to read and discuss these texts with their peers. Children in KS2 are given independent reading time.

### **Book Budget**

An annual budget is allocated for books and meets the demands and needs for each academic year. The budget takes into account the need to replenish and update stock.

### **Professional Development and Support**

Professional support, coaching, training and guidance is made available for staff to support their understanding and develop their skills in promoting reading for pleasure through:

- Staff meetings and INSET
- Discussions with SLT and English Subject Leader
- Discussions and good practice within teams
- Wider reading/research on 'Reading for Pleasure'

### **Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually.