Information for parents and carers

Your child's reading journey
Rapid Catch-up

Your child is on their journey to becoming a skilled reader. At our school, children learn to read following the *Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised* phonics programme. They apply what they learn in phonics lessons to reading books matched to their phonic knowledge.

The Rapid Catch-up programme mirrors the core Little Wandle programme, but children learn at a much faster pace. The Rapid Catch-up programme has been carefully designed for children aged 7 and above to catch up quickly.

All for the love of reading

- Teaching children the skills of reading will increase their will to read.
- Children who love reading, choose to read.
- Reading develops children's vocabulary, understanding of the world and empathy.
- A love of reading is the biggest indicator of future academic success! To develop a love of reading, children must have the skills to read, which is why we teach them using phonics.





What is my child taught in school?

- Your child will have an additional session every day.
- On days 1 and 2, they will be taught a 20-minute phonics lesson.
- On day 3, they will be taught a quick 10-minute review of phonics. This will be followed by a 10–15 minute reading practice session, where they will read a book that is matched to their phonic knowledge.
- On days 4 and 5, they will have a 10–15 minute reading practice session, reading the same book as on day 3.
- Your child will be assessed before starting the programme, so that we know where to begin teaching.

When will they be taught Rapid Catch-up?

- Rapid Catch-up will be taught daily and will be timetabled into the school day as an extra session.
- Your child may miss small chunks of other lessons, but their teacher will ensure that this is addressed when they come back to class.
- A highly-skilled, highly-trained member of staff will deliver the programme.
- Your child may be taught in a small group or individually, depending on their need.

What can I do to support my child at home?

- Listen to your child practise reading their decodable book to develop their fluency.
- Read to your child daily using engaging texts – they are never too old to be read to! The love of reading books we send home are a great place to start.
- Be a positive role-model for reading – if you show enjoyment, your child will.
- Ask your child's teacher if you need extra help with supporting your child – that's what we're here for!

What if my child comes across a word that they can't read straight away?

- If your child is unsure of a word, ask them to sound it out and then blend.
- Ask them if they can spot any digraphs (two letters, one sound) or trigraphs (three letters, one sound) before decoding the word.
- Never ask your child to guess words using the pictures or initial sounds as clues. If they are really struggling just read the word to them.

