



Clifford Bridge  
Academy

# The Importance of Reading

The importance of reading for children cannot be underestimated. Reading for pleasure can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing, and their mental health.

Engaging with books allows us to be transported to other places and worlds. We can become immersed in the lives of fictional characters or learn more about the world around us.

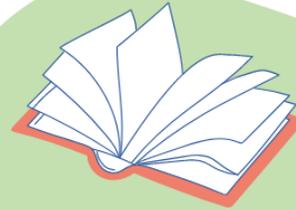
Reading is a key life skill. It is placed at the heart of our curriculum; we have carefully selected texts which will ignite children's imagination, inspire their curiosity and provide a window to the world.

In 1995, Hart and Risley, published some ground-breaking research looking at the language that 1 to 2 year olds were exposed to. They found that there was a direct correlation between the number of words a child heard and the number of times the child's own vocalisations **were responded to** with a child's vocabulary development, language skills and even IQ scores, years later. To put their findings very simply: **Talking to and with a young child a lot of the time every day, day in and day out, is really important for their language and cognitive development. A TV doesn't talk back!**

## Parents in Partnership

It is crucial for both school and parents to actively teach their child to read. We need you to create a home environment where reading is encouraged and seen as a pleasurable experience.

**Spending just 10-15 minutes reading with your child every day will be invaluable in developing their ability and desire to read and learn.**



Reading is the  
key to success...  
**EYFS**

## High-quality books

We will ensure that your child has a reading book which is suitably pitched to build both confidence as a reader and fluency.

We have a wide variety of reading books from different schemes

Children start off with books with no words and move onto books with simple decodable words once they have learnt the first few sets of sounds and are starting to blend.

## Supporting your child

- Read at least 3 times per week with your child
- Log your child's reading in their Reading Diary, there is an example of how to do this in the front of your child's diary
- Make reading time pleasurable by finding a quiet, comfortable space and giving your child your full attention.
- Ask your child simple questions as they read to check their understanding-there are examples in the back of the reading diaries and in the back of the reading books
- Use positive language and praise their reading efforts
- Read to your child as part of your evening routine. This builds vocabulary, feeds imagination and can even improve sleep patterns
- Engage with the word lists which can be found inside your child's reading diary-more information will be sent home in a separate letter and on Tapestry
- Ask them about books/ stories they are reading at school (the book of the week is shared on the weekly newsletter)

## School Routines

- Your child's reading book will be changed every week
- Reading diaries are checked weekly
- Word Lists-there will be a separate letter sent out to parents explaining what to do with these.
- Your child's word lists will be attached to the inside cover of their reading diary.