



## **ST STEPHEN'S CofE First School**

### **READING RATIONALE**

#### **INTENT**

It is our intention that pupils at St Stephen's CE RSA Academy become enthusiastic, confident and avid readers, who read fluently and widely and are able to express their preferences and opinions about the texts that they read. We want them to have a love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment and to appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage. This they will achieve through access to a wide range of texts, authors and genres to enable them to explore their interests and share these with others.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Reading is a central feature of our curriculum which begins in Nursery and is an integral part of all phases within our school and a key in every area of our broad and balanced curriculum. We ensure our pupils have secure phonics knowledge to enable fluency, understanding, acquisition of language and pleasure when reading. All pupils have opportunities to engage in purposeful, enriched language in reading, writing and discussion. This is enabled through the availability of a wide variety of quality texts and resources to motivate and inspire.

All pupils have different needs and we ensure that these needs are met through focused interventions including phonics to enable progression in decoding, target readers to ensure targeted children receive daily reading with an adult and comprehension skills to enhance understanding to maximise potential and build confidence and independence.

Parents are an important element in enabling progress in our pupils' reading and to equip them with the skills to help their child we hold parents' meetings for phonics, listening to children read and SATs expectations for year 2.

To foster a love of reading we celebrate our reading with inspiring displays and reading areas and reading rewards to encourage reading at home.

Our assessment in reading is rigorous and includes:

- half termly phonic assessments
- NGRT assessments to identify a child's reading age. This generates reports to support interventions for targeted children
- PixL assessments to gain an understanding of a child's reading comprehension. Gap analysis enables bespoke support to be matched appropriately to the needs of the pupils.
- Fluency is assessed using age related texts to identify the number of words per minute that each pupil is able to read accurately and informs teaching staff of the child's prosody to ensure that they are an effective, expressive reader.

#### **IMPACT**

The impact of the reading rationale on our pupils is clear progress, sustained learning and transferrable skills. We strive for our pupils to meet national expectations in reading and for the majority to become fluent and confident readers. The dedication and enthusiasm of staff together with the quality of texts available to the pupils in multidisciplinary contexts enables development of their reading skills and fosters a love of reading.