



WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL
Aim high... Work hard... Be kind...

WILLIAM HARDING SCHOOL

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06 December 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Re: **NEW Home Reading Approach**

In line with guidance from 'The Reading Framework' (Department for Education), we have reviewed our home reading strategy to ensure we are meeting all requirements. In order to improve and streamline the home reading strategy for parents, we have made some changes that we would like to share with you below.

To summarise, children will no longer be bringing home a 'home reader'. Instead, we will be moving to online platforms for all children. Once you have accessed your child's home reading platform, you will be able to read a range of books set at the correct reading level for each child. We would like you to record each book you read with your children in the yellow reading records so that teachers can keep track of what the children are reading and move levels up if needed.

Separate letters have been sent out including 'how to' guides for each platform.

Please find below details of the **Reception/KS1** approach and the **KS2** approach.

Reception/KS1 - Early Reading & Phonics

At William Harding we are passionate about getting all children reading and to develop their love for reading. Research shows that until they are fluent readers children should only be reading decodable books. This means that during early reading children should only read books using the sounds that they have already learnt and the common exception words (referred to at William Harding as 'red words') that have been taught in lessons. We will encourage the children to read the correct decodable books using the RWI ebooks online. Children will be expected to read two books a week online, rereading as many times as needed to develop their fluency of the words and sounds in the books. Each time a child reads to an adult at home this should be recorded in their yellow reading record and teachers will check this weekly and award the Reading Rocks points. Teachers will be sending home usernames and passwords to the children in RWI groups by the end of term. If you are unable to access the books online please speak to your child's class teacher via the school office as we will provide books for those who do not have access to online devices at home.

Our School Values are: Inclusion, Perseverance, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and Collaboration.



Once a child is no longer in a RWI group they will move to using our Oxford Reading Buddy eBooks. Please see details of this below.

KS2 – Reading to build vocabulary, stamina and a love of reading

Once your child has come off of our RWI scheme, they have learnt all sounds that are needed to phonetically read and write words. However, we believe that a big part of reading is about developing vocabulary, stamina and a love of reading. This is in line with the new Government guidance. Therefore, when your child comes off of RWI, they will move from the RWI eBooks library to the Oxford Reading Buddy eLibrary. Children will be expected to read two books a week online, rereading as many times as needed to develop their fluency of the words and sounds in the books. Each time a child reads to an adult at home this should be recorded in their yellow reading record and teachers will check this weekly and award the Reading Rocks points. Teachers will be sending home usernames and passwords to the children as they move from the RWI portal to the Oxford Reading Buddy Library. If you are unable to access the books online, please speak to your child’s class teacher via the school office as we will provide books for those who do not have access to online devices at home.

Library

To supplement our online reading scheme, children will still have access to ‘real’ books by visiting the school’s library each week and can choose a book of their choice to read at home either with an adult or independently. This can be any book and can be on any topic that interests your child. Please also record this in the yellow reading record books.

Kind regards,

Miss Hubbard and Mrs Fulford-Foy

English and Phonics Leads

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