



Key Stage 1 reading

How can you help your child with their reading?

- Please listen to your child **read regularly**. 10-15 minutes a day is much better than longer sessions once a week.
- At Sacred Heart School, we use a phonics approach to teach children to read words. From the first stages of reading, pupils are taught the **use the sounds in words** to build up words phonetically. When your child is reading, encourage them to:
 - **point to each word** to help them keep track
 - **'sound out' any unknown words** (using their 'Fred fingers'). Over time, a growing number of words will become part of your child's 'sight memory', and they won't have to sound out as many words or not at all
 - on second and third readings of the book, encourage them to read with more pace and fluency and with less focus on 'sounding out' the letters in each word
 - **use pictures clues** to help them read unknown words/follow the story
- **Take turns** in reading
- **Talk about the book**. The next page has a list of suggested questions and ideas to encourage your child to talk about the book.
- **Talk about the meanings of words** to help to develop your child's understanding and use of language.

Remember build up your child's confidence by **consistently praising their efforts**.

Using questions to talk about the book

Helping your child *to identify key points*

Why did _____?

What did _____ do?

Who did _____?

Where is the _____?

At the start of the story, (Sam was sad) - why?

Helping your child *to understand the words*

Can you find the word _____?

What does the word _____ mean?

What word has the writer used to make _____ (the character) seem feel happy/sad/angry/frustrated/lonely/bitter etc?

Helping your child *to read 'between the lines'*

Which is the most interesting/exciting/funniest/ scariest/ part of the story? Why?
In this part of the story, what do you think the character feels about...? How can you tell?

What do you think would have happened if...?

Helping your child *to predict what may happen next*

What do you think is going to happen next?

What do you think is going to happen next? Why do you think this?