

## Reading Books in Reception – Parent/Carer Guide

### Shared Reader Books

The Shared Reader books are the tool to support learning to read. The books are matched with the current phonic step the children are on, so these books are fully decodable meaning the children are able to use the phonics they have been taught to segment, blend and read the book.

The Shared Reader book is introduced on Monday and read daily in school before being sent home on Friday to be read at home. It is then changed the following Friday. The reason the book is kept for a week is to support the children becoming fluent readers. Research has proven that books need to be read and re-read (at least three times) to support children in becoming fluent readers.

The initial read of a Shared Reader book will most likely include segmenting and blending the new sounds the children have learnt. The next few reads allow the children to apply their phonics and practise, so it is not until the book has been read a few times it will start becoming familiar. It is then that the children can start to understand and comprehend the story, but also develop their fluency by reading with intonation and considering punctuation when they read. As the books progress through the scheme they will increase in difficulty (both in content and quantity) and so the re-reading of the same book over a few days will become more essential in supporting our children becoming fluent readers who understand what they are reading.

We realise that having the same book for a long period of time may get repetitive and the children may not enjoy this as much as a book of their choice, but we would encourage the Shared Reader book to be read at home daily for a minimum of at least 10 minutes – this is to support the children in their journey to learning how to read.

### How to use the Reading Record

- Record the date and an initial each time you hear your child read
- In the comments section you can briefly tell us how your child did with their reading at home, ideally once a week
- Please ensure both Reading Record and Shared Reader book are in your child's book bag and brought into school every day

### Things to Remember

- Establish a reading routine in a quiet and calm area of your home
- Little and often is key, just ten minutes every day will make a real difference
- Reading practice might involve your child reading to you, red word wallet flashcards, finding red words or phonemes in books, making words/diagrams with letters
- Enjoy sharing other books together too – the Shared Readers can support learning to read, but a love of reading will come from reading books of their choice together

