

Larkfields Reading Journey



We believe reading enables children to develop empathy, curiosity and to understand their place in our world. It allows children to experience cultures, beliefs and lifestyle outside of their immediate experience. Our driving force is that a Larkfield's child leaves us as a confident, skilled reader with a life-long passion for reading.

A typical week all children will experience:

3 Little Wandle reading sessions within school.	1 Closely Matched Reading Scheme Book to be read at home and with our experienced reading friends within school	1 Storytime Book to be shared at home
A daily 20 minute phonics lessons	Daily Storytime	1 Library session

Little Wandle Reading Sessions

Half termly assessments allow us to match your child's phonic knowledge with the correct book stage.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2
F	4.2	5.5
2.1	5.1	Fluency 1
2.2	5.2	Fluency 2
2.3	5.3	Fluency 3
2.4	5.4	Fluency 4
2.5	5.5	Fluency 5
3.1		
3.2		
4.1		

Once the correct stage has been identified the children will experience 3 reading sessions a week within school, undertaken by either the teacher or a teaching assistant, all of whom have been trained to a high standard.

Reading Session One- Introduction and Decoding Read

In this session flashcards will be used to remind the children of the new phonemes they see in the book, they will also practice blending words containing these new phonemes. In addition, the tricky words will be practiced. New vocabulary is introduced and explained. Once these have been looked at the child will read through the book for the first time using their phonic knowledge to help decode the words in the book. The teacher is on hand to support children to blend new words.

Reading Session Two- Prosody Read

In this session the teacher will model reading the text with expression and flow, pointing out text features that show us how to read for an audience. The children will be given the opportunity to practice reading fluently in this session.

Reading Session Three- Comprehension Read

In this session the teacher will check that the children are developing the skills to read for meaning. They will focus on comprehension questions where children can evidence their answers from the text they have read.

These books will not be sent home but we still encourage parents to practice these books. Access to these is via [Home - Collins Hub](#) You will be given an individual username and password in your child's reading diary and instructions on how to navigate the site can be found on the school app and on the website [Reading | Larkfields Infant School \(secure-primariesite.net\)](#)

Closely Matched Reading Scheme Book

Children have access to the Little Wandle reading books in school and in addition to this we ensure the children receive a rich diet of text, we have a number of other scheme books that have been matched to the criteria of the Little Wandle banding. The children will have the freedom to pick from a wide variety of books within their assigned band. This book will be taken home and we encourage all parents to practice these books at home using the three session approach of introduction and decode, prosody, and comprehension sessions.

Introduction read

Have a look at this book prior to sharing with your child and pick out some words you know they may need help and practice with. You can also talk about the meaning of words you feel are not part of your child's everyday vocabulary. Then allow your child to have a go at reading the book. They will need to decode the words by looking at the letters and blending them. If it's a word you know your child can read encourage them not to blend. You may want to read through the book twice if you have time or repeat this session on another day.

Prosody Read

This is when you will pay more attention to the punctuation. You can point out the punctuation and explain what its purpose is. You could read the book to your child showing how you use different voices for characters or use a narrator voice. Your child can practice reading with you. The aim of this session is to develop flow and expression.

Comprehension Read

Your child should now be able to read the book accurately with pace and expression. This session is when you can check your child has understood what they have read. You can ask them questions about what happened, who people are, how they felt. Always encourage your child to refer to the book when answering. E.g How did Sam feel at the end? He felt happy because in the picture he is smiling and at the end he found his lost teddy.

Examples of questions can be found on our website [Reading | Larkfields Infant School \(secure-primariesite.net\)](https://secure-primariesite.net)

Within school the children will read these books to our experienced reading friends and they will swap these books once a week for a new book.

Storytime Books

Each Year group has a list of story books which can be found on our website. These books have been selected through our research into key texts to ensure they are closely matched to our PSHE and English curricula. They represent both new and classic children's books. Our selected texts represent a wide range of diversity in both authors and protagonists.

Educational research shows that children exposed to a rich diet of story books from a young age has a considerable impact on a child's vocabulary and future attainment. At Larkfields we encourage all families to share a bedtime story with their children and therefore each week our children will take home a story book.

In addition, our "gift of reading" book case in our entrance hall allow families access to a lending library of child and adult books. For more information on the importance of bedtime stories please click on this link

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Daily 20 minute Phonics Teaching

Teaching staff use the Little Wandle scheme of work to ensure high quality daily phonics sessions are taught. The phonics knowledge taught in these sessions are matched with the reading books the children read within school and at home and allows the children to master their developing phonic knowledge.

Sessions consist of three parts. A revisit and review part where existing knowledge that has been taught can be further practiced; a teach and practice part where new knowledge is taught and children have the opportunity to practice and consolidate; an apply and grow the code session where children move from word level work into sentence level work. Within these sessions new phonemes and tricky words are taught, and teachers explicitly model the skills of blending and segmenting to support reading and spelling. Children are taught in whole class groups.

Daily Story Sessions

The children at Larkfields will experience a daily story session where books from the year group's storytime books are read and children and teachers are encouraged to share their favourite books. This is an opportunity to have a daily shared experience encouraging the love of books. We encourage other members of our school community to become a mystery storyteller and surprise the children with a story session from someone other than their teacher.

Weekly Library Session

Our fully stocked library of fiction and non fiction books is used by the class either as a whole class or in small groups. We encourage children to use the library for research and to develop their own preferences. We encourage children to recommend books to their peers.

How are the children assessed?

Every reading session within school the adults are making informal assessment about the child's reading strength and areas where they need more support and practice. These are recorded in a child's reading diary so all adults supporting a child can have a full picture of the child's reading development. In addition, half termly formal assessments are carried out using the Little Wandle end of unit assessments. These give an accurate judgement of which reading band a child will fit into.

At the end of Year 1 all children are required to take the phonics screening check, this is a statutory assessment required by the government. If your child has not passed, they will retake this in Year 2. Your child's score will form part of the annual report that goes home at the end of the academic year.

What happens in Year 2?

By the end of Year One children are expected to have completed the Little Wandle programme of study and will have acquired knowledge of all the GPC's – See Appendix 1.

Once children have mastered the phonics code and have become fluent in their reading, we move children onto fluency books. The teachers work with children on a group level to teach and support prosody and comprehension. These books help to build stamina, expose children to different genres and focus on higher order comprehension skills.

Whole class teaching moves away from Little Wandle phonics teaching and instead follows a spelling programme

How can I support my child at home?

There are a range of support materials on the Little Wandle website to help support parents with reading at home, in addition we run termly parent workshops and have a reading advice section on our website under curriculum/reading. It is the school's expectation

that children have a bedtime story every night and a reading session using either the Collins Hub or the matched reading scheme book most nights.

How do we support children who are finding reading hard?

It is important to acknowledge that all children take a differing journey in their acquisition of reading skills. Some children find reading a natural process others find it very hard. Larkfields is committed to ensuring all children leave our school skilled and confident readers. Daily ongoing informal assessments in reading and phonics sessions allow teachers to quickly identify children struggling with the reading process and action is taken immediately to support these children. We have a range of keeping up interventions available either in 1:1 sessions or small group sessions. Sometimes children will just need these for a small amount of time and will catch back up quickly, other times children may need this level of support for much longer. Teachers will work closely with parents to help support the child.

Glossary of Terms

Blending	This is when children see the individual phonemes in a word and then put them together to sound the word. e.g c-a-t, sh-i-p, ch-ur-ch
Decode	Looking at a whole word and breaking it down into the individual phonemes in order to then read the word.
Phoneme	Is the sound a letter or combination of letters make.
Prosody	The patterns, rhythm and intonation in language.
Tricky words	These are words that are not able to be decoded in their entirety. e.g the, he, she,