



Ramsey Manor Lower School

Reading Curriculum Intent, Implementation and Impact 2023-24

Our Vision

At Ramsey Manor, we believe that all of our students have the opportunity to thrive in our inclusive, nurturing and inspiring environment where they will grow into creative and confident learners without limits.

Aspire, Achieve, Excel

INTENT

What we want to achieve

At Ramsey Manor Lower School, our mission is for all of our pupils to be the very best they can be. It is our intention to nurture well-read, insightful, knowledgeable, inquisitive and thoughtful readers. We aim to provide our pupils with a high-quality education that will teach them to become enthusiastic readers who can read fluently. We aim to develop the habit of reading widely, and often, for both pleasure and information.

There will be a consistent approach to teaching and learning that can be observed across all phases of school. There is a universal understanding of what outstanding teaching, learning and assessment should entail. These strategies are consistently used throughout school and it is the expectation of leadership that all lessons will include a variety of these to enable learners to reach their full potential.

IMPLEMENTATION

How we will achieve this:

Quality first teaching in reading is achieved through our commitment to CPD and quality first teaching on a daily basis. Expectations of staff and pupils are high, resulting in good progress in all phases.

Active learning is essential in all aspects of the lesson. All staff use the same terminology so that learners develop a knowledge and understanding of the different ways they learn. At Ramsey Manor Lower School, we believe outstanding teaching, learning and assessment must include the following:

1. Challenge for all
2. Collaborative learning
3. Assessment for learning
4. Questioning

5. Progression within lessons and books

6. Learning behaviours

We are working hard to promote our pupils' English and ensure that they all achieve to the very best of their ability. Pupils are encouraged to read widely and often. English is fundamental to all subjects. Consequently, we believe that all stakeholders have a role to play in supporting and developing our pupils' English skills to ensure they can communicate effectively in today's society.

The delivery of reading at Ramsey Manor Lower School

At Ramsey Manor Lower School, we have designed a reading curriculum, with reference to the National Curriculum Programme of Study, that meets the needs of our pupils. Word reading and comprehension are the key focuses; it is essential that teaching develops pupils' competence in these two areas. Skilled word reading involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Underpinning both is the understanding that the letters on the page represent the sounds in spoken words. This is why phonics should be emphasised in the early teaching of reading to beginners when they start school.

At Ramsey Manor Lower School, we use the Twinkl phonics programme to support the delivery of phonics. Phonics is taught daily EYFS and in KS1. Children who do not pass the statutory phonics screening in Year 1, receive further intervention before they are re-tested in Year 2.

Home reading books

At Ramsey Manor Lower School, Rhino Readers is our chosen, fully-decodable reading scheme. All children are provided with a reading book to take home. Class teachers ensure that pupils are reading books from the phonics level that is most appropriate to their reading ability. We encourage our pupils to read at home regularly and ask parents to write in their child's reading diary every day. These diaries are a method of communication between home and school. In school, the minimum expectation is that an adult listens 1:1 to each child read their Rhino Reader book once a week. Once pupils have finished their book, staff will check that they have a good understanding of what they have read, before changing it for another. As children progress to level 6 Rhino readers and are secure with their fluency and decoding skills they will complete a Star Reading Test and begin to read from our Accelerated Reader range. This is a system which promotes reading for pleasure and allows teachers to track and assess each child's progress by a simple computer system. Children select their book and complete a short quiz when they have finished reading the book.

Class readers

For each termly theme, a quality, age-appropriate text has been assigned to each year group. The purpose of this text is to ensure that pupils are reading widely and that their vocabulary increases because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech. The class readers are carefully selected so that they feed pupils' imagination as well as building their vocabulary. The class reader is often the stimulus for writing and is used as the quality text for whole class reading.

We always encourage our pupils to read for pleasure, there is designated reading time in each class, where an adult reads a text, of their choice, to the children. They model the reading skills taught at school, including fluency, expression and intonation. The purpose of this text is simply for children to enjoy a story; there is no expectation that pupils record any written responses to questions asked.

Whole class reading

At Ramsey Manor Lower School, we believe that good comprehension draws from linguistic knowledge (in particular of vocabulary and grammar) and on knowledge of the world. Comprehension skills develop through pupils' experience of high-quality discussion with the teacher, as well as from reading and discussing a range of stories, poems and non-fiction. It is for this reason that we deliver whole class reading. Three lessons a week in KS2 and two lessons a week in KS1 is timetabled to focus on teaching and reinforcing reading skills: retrieval, inference, understanding vocabulary, prediction, summarising and authorial intent. Teachers use both the class reader and extracts from quality texts.

The school library

As Reading for Pleasure is so important to us at Ramsey Manor Lower School, we have recently invested a lot into our school library. New titles, which appeal to all ages, have been purchased so that we can grow our pupils' love for reading. Each class visits the library regularly so that the pupils can change their books once they have read them. In addition, pupils use the library as a quiet place to concentrate on the books they are reading. During lunchtimes, our children are welcome to use the library as a quiet space to relax and read.

IMPACT

The outcomes of the Reading Curriculum

The impact of our Reading curriculum is clear: progress, sustained learning and transferable skills. Pupils will make at least good progress from their individual starting points. Through the teaching of systematic synthetic phonics, our aim is for children to become fluent readers by the end of Key Stage One. This way, children can focus on developing their fluency and comprehension as they move through the school. Attainment in reading is measured using the statutory assessments at the end of Key Stage One and Two. These results are measured against the reading attainment of children nationally.

Attainment in phonics is measured by the Phonics Screening Test at the end of Year 1. The whole class approach to teaching reading will support pupils to become more confident readers by the time they leave Ramsey Manor Lower School at the end of Lower Key Stage 2. Our pupils will be able to read for a range of purposes and understand how authors make vocabulary and organisational choices based on their audience. It is essential that, by the end of their primary education, all pupils are able to read fluently, and with confidence in any subject. We hope that we fulfil our school's vision: to prepare our children for the next stage of their lives to enable them to contribute positively to their community.