

Personal Development at William Booth

What do we do for Reading at William Booth?

At William Booth reading is so much more than a subject. Our reading curriculum aims to not only develop children as confident readers, but to instill a **lifelong love of reading** that impacts on all other areas of learning and improves overall life chances. We believe that reading does so much! Through reading we want our children to learn about people, places and events outside their own experience. To **develop empathy**, kindness and to value difference. By using high quality texts, we aim to contribute significantly to closing the vocabulary gap that exists for most of our children when they enter our school. Our intention is that our reading curriculum will lead to more **highly-developed language skills** and that this in turn will improve the children's ability to write well.

Reading is the **"golden thread"** in our curriculum and is used to drive learning in all subjects.



What is the impact?

The impact of our approach to reading is that **our children love books**. They read for pleasure and love talking to their peers and adults about their favourite books and authors. Due to a carefully planned reading spine the children are exposed to a wide range of genres, enabling them to explore different styles of stories and discover their own preferences.

Through being exposed to and exploring high quality texts the children's **vocabulary is significantly widened**, closing the word gap that so many of them start school with. This increases the likelihood of them going on to lead successful and happy lives. Our reading spines are closely linked to our curriculum, with the impact being that quality texts support the children with **knowledge acquisition** in relation to our key curriculum themes.