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**Phonics at Wibsey Primary School**

“Reading transforms the human brain which transforms the mind, which transforms the life of every reader.”

Maryanne Wolf

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| **What our children learn (Intent)** |
| At Wibsey Primary School, we recognise that reading is the single most important skill a child will learn in school. We strive to support children to learn to read quickly and accurately and are determined that every child will learn to read, regardless of their background, needs or abilities. We endeavour to foster a real love of reading in our children in order that they choose to continue to read for pleasure. Our intent is to provide consistent, high quality phonics teaching which is accessed by all children. We ensure that the teaching of synthetic phonics is systematic and progressive throughout Foundation stage and Key Stage One to support phonetic knowledge and understanding, ensuring that children have secure phonetic knowledge, understanding and skills so that they can decode words confidently and apply this when reading and writing. We aim to enable children to use phonic awareness across the curriculum and provide children with strategies to identify and decode ‘tricky words. |
| **How do our children learn (Implementation)** |
| At Wibsey Primary we follow the Read, Write Inc phonics programme. Read Write Inc. (RWInc) is a consistent, rigorous, and dynamic literacy programme to teach EVERY child to read by the age of six. Using synthetic phonics, children quickly learn to blend letter sounds together to read words. Every lesson has a clear and precise structure of revisit, teach, practise and apply. This allows for a recapping of previous knowledge and time to embed new learning, this can then be practised and applied in both reading and writing every day. The RWInc programme has been proven to be a very successful method of teaching children to read and write using phonics. Children are regularly assessed and placed in homogenous groups and given appropriate RWInc reading books to follow. Some children in KS2 also follow the programme to ensure they catch up.  Daily Read Write Inc. sessions at Wibsey Primary encourage and support children to develop their ability to decode as well as develop their comprehension and fluency. The writing aspect of the programme teaches the children how to record their ideas, applying taught phonics and formulating their sentences orally before writing these on paper. Through half termly assessments, we ensure that children are working at challenge level in a group matched to their ability. Children receive additional support, where needed, to help them on their journey to becoming a confident reader.  Reading does not stop at the end of the Read Write Inc. session. A love of literature is at the heart of learning at Wibsey Primary. We recognise that books open up a plethora of learning opportunities and support success in the wider curriculum and throughout life. Children read RWInc ditties or books every morning with a trained member of staff. They take ditties and books home that are closely matched to their increasing knowledge of phonics and ability to read ‘tricky words’; so, they experience early reading success and gain confidence as a reader, as well as consolidating the learning that takes place in school.  In EYFS and KS1, children bring home a Read Write Inc scheme reading book that is matched to their stage of the phonics group.  Children learn the English alphabetic code: first they learn one way to read the 40+ sounds and blend these sounds into words, then learn to read the same sounds with alternative graphemes. They experience success from the very beginning. High quality decodable books are closely matched to their increasing knowledge of phonics and ‘tricky’ words and, as children re-read the stories, their fluency increases. |
| **What difference does the phonics curriculum make to our children? (Impact\_** |
| Through the teaching of systematic phonics, children will become fluent readers by the end of Key Stage 1. Children will make progress through the different phases of phonics in line with Year Group expectations and make progress from their own individual starting points. At Wibsey, children will become confident and resilient in tackling unfamiliar words by applying learnt knowledge and skills to segment, blend and read words which are real and nonsense. Our aim is that children will demonstrate high levels of engagement in phonics and will apply their phonological knowledge when reading and writing and use the working walls to assist them when needed but become increasingly independent in this process. Children will have an increased recognition of tricky words and high frequency words when reading and apply these when writing. SEND children will develop phonic skills and knowledge and will develop their ability to apply this across the curriculum, helping them to prepare for the next stage in their education. In line with their phonics knowledge, children read books focusing on developing fluency and comprehension. Embedding the alphabetic code early on means that children quickly learn to write simple words and sentences. Attainment in phonics is measured by the phonics screen Test at the end of Year 1 and ongoing assessment throughout the Read, Write, Inc programme. |