



Biscovey Primary Academy – Juniors

Teaching and Learning Principles

Subject: Reading

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

School Vision:

At Biscovey Primary Academy – Juniors, we aim for every child to flourish in a nurturing environment, demonstrate respect and kindness, whilst building resilience and ambition for the future.

Our curriculum ensures that we deliver a range of topics across the age phases which develops sequential learning where pupils know more and can do more, ensuring that they are ready for their next stage in education.

Our nurturing ethos endeavours to support all children and their families. Through this approach we are able to work together to ensure that we meet the needs of all learners in our school.

We pride ourselves on delivering an ambitious curriculum, focusing beyond the academic curriculum, developing a child's individual character. Our core values; 'nurture', 'respect' and 'ambition' run through all areas of school life and learning which allows the whole child to develop into a confident and caring young individual. The Biscovey child shows respect, and through ambition, self-belief and courage approaches learning with an inquisitive mind.

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

Subject Intent:

At Biscovey Primary Academy – Juniors, we value reading as a key life skill and are dedicated to enabling our children to become lifelong readers. We recognise that a secure foundation in phonics is essential for developing confident and fluent readers. As children progress through the junior school, we build upon their phonic knowledge to develop increasing accuracy, automaticity and fluency. Over time, improved fluency enables children to focus more fully on understanding and engaging with a broad range of fiction and non-fiction texts across the curriculum.

Our aim is that children follow an engaging curriculum, where key texts are at the heart of all our learning. Following the aims and objectives of the National Curriculum the school endeavours to create a life – long love of reading. Our curriculum is structured through high-quality texts. These text types are carefully selected, across all year groups, from Year 3 to Year 6, so that children are systematically exposed to a variety of genres. This is particularly important in closing the vocabulary gap. Furthermore, through this, timely opportunities are seized to develop reading comprehension strategies and vocabulary extension.

We want children to develop an on-going love of reading. Through our sustained approach, children become inquisitive about language and its structure and actively read for meaning. They also develop widening knowledge and use this to make connections between subjects and aspects of learning. As a result of this, children become happy, confident readers who develop an enquiring mind. A high emphasis is on language and vocabulary development so that pupils know more and remember more.

It is our professional ambition that all children will leave school as fluent, confident readers with a desire to read and enjoy a range of texts.

To ensure reading quality across the school we:

- Ensure children are reading books which are matched to their reading ability through the use of Accelerated Reader
- Have weekly sessions in our school library, where they share stories and choose books to take home and enjoy
- Ensure that each classroom has developed its own unique book corner where children can enjoy reading and exploring a range of high quality texts
- Share a class story with pupils daily to foster a love of reading and promote reading for pleasure
- Offer interventions throughout the school to catch pupils up where required

Implementation:

Due to the paramount importance of reading at Biscovey Primary Academy, we incorporate reading as an everyday fluid element. We embrace a reading for pleasure and a love for reading climate in our school environment and within the views and attitudes of children and staff. In order to establish success in reading, we strive to teach high quality reading and progress on skills and knowledge as they move up from the infants' school and throughout KS2.

Our teaching is delivered through a whole class approach to reading with Vipers lessons. Vipers encompasses a range of skills of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising. Each skill is taught explicitly and embedded with a variety of texts, question types and modelling daily from teachers.

At Biscovey Primary - Juniors, we use Accelerated Reader to ensure that pupils access books at an appropriate level. This enables them to read with increasing accuracy and fluency, while still providing an appropriate level of challenge. Through regular reading and discussion, pupils develop their understanding of texts and strengthen their comprehension skills, supporting them to become confident and enthusiastic readers.

Opportunities to read aloud are provided regularly to encourage a culture of confident readers, fluency in speech and greater understanding of the words in front of them. Furthermore, we offer interventions to support gaps in reading and challenge misconceptions that children might have.

We assess reading half-termly and termly, to continue the progress of children and track where their skills are being met and need further support. Across the school reading rewards are used as positive reinforcement of regularly reading at home and school, showing progression in reading, using acquired skills in reading and to celebrate success for our children.

Reading at our school is closely monitored through learning walks and book looks to ensure high quality of reading and that quality of teaching and understanding is assured across the school. We endeavour to identify strengths within the school, share great practice, observe and support one another and find opportunities to develop our reading offer.

Impact:

As a result of our vibrant and broad reading curriculum, we aim to create a reading culture that enthuses joy and love for reading. We want to inspire a curious and questioning approach for children to explore their world of reading and seek their own meanings from texts. We promote discussion of our interests and measuring passion for reading through reviewing and referring texts to others. We will be continuing to measure impact with learning walks, monitoring and regularly gaining pupil voice. We will see children who are able to articulate their ideas, use insight and reasoning behind comprehending questions and texts and having a profound enthusiasm for a wide range of reading materials, literature and genres.

Additionally, the teaching of reading will be consistently a high standard full of opportunities to challenge children and extend their knowledge. Underpinning everything that they learn, children will be empowered to become fluent readers and thinkers and share their experiences in their reading, into their wider world and understanding.