

WESTFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL



KS2

Reading

Policy

September 2026

At Westfield Community School, the intention of our KS2 reading curriculum is to provide focused teaching in the skills underpinning fluency & comprehension (and decoding when necessary), in order to develop fluent, confident readers.

Pupils should leave Y6 reading at an age-appropriate level, fluently and expressively and demonstrating good comprehension of a wide range of text types. They should be fully prepared for the next stage of their education, as reading is the key to unlocking learning across the wider curriculum.

Our KS2 reading curriculum consists of 4 strands – daily reading lesson; mini fluency-focused lesson; class novel reading; and Big Cat home reading book scheme.

Daily Reading Lesson

Whole-class lessons are planned daily for 30-40minutes to explicitly teach reading comprehension skills, covering the objectives set out in the national programme of study. Across the year, a mix of high-quality texts will be studied, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Opportunities to explore the class novel in depth will also be planned for. Pupils of all ability levels are expected to engage with reading lessons, with support provided for pupils reading below the age-related expected level through the use of pre-reading of texts or adult-supported/ peer-supported reading within the lesson.

Mini Fluency-Focused Lesson

Timetabled thrice weekly for 15 minute sessions, the mini fluency-focused lessons explicitly teach the skills of reading fluency, which is the critical bridge linking decoding and comprehension. Techniques including echo reading, repeated re-reading and phrase marking are used to read the same text multiple times over a week, which will facilitate incremental improvements in pupils' reading fluency.

Reading Spines – class novel reading

Central to our aim in developing a love of reading is the daily class novel session, which provides an opportunity for pupils to enjoy a wide range of high-quality, challenging texts, including those they may not choose for themselves. The books shared during daily class novel reading have been selected carefully to ensure pupils are exposed to a mix of authors and characters and include fiction, non-fiction, poetry & verse novels and picture books. We firmly believe in the importance of our pupils seeing themselves reflected in the books shared and a diversity of characters are celebrated across the KS2 Reading Spines.

Home Reading Books

Every pupil is encouraged to further develop their reading skills through reading at home and our Big Cat banded reading scheme provides access to a wide range of engaging fiction, non-fiction and poetry titles. Pupils are monitored and assessed carefully to ensure their book band matches their reading level exactly.

Pupils also have access to their class library to choose a book to read for their own pleasure. The class libraries are carefully stocked with a wide-range of age-appropriate titles.

Over holiday periods, pupils are provided with an individual copy of a shared book to enjoy, which is then followed up in class with taught reading and writing sessions.

Assessment of Reading

Across KS2, attainment of pupils is closely monitored to ensure that any necessary & appropriate interventions are planned at the right level, developing the relevant reading skill – decoding, fluency or comprehension.

Termly triangulation of assessment data from Target Tracker, GL reading assessment, RWI, Big Cat book bands and independent classwork is undertaken to track pupils' progress and attainment and ensure any data discrepancies can be further investigated.