

ENGLISH



The teaching of reading at Blue Coat Infant School

At Blue Coat CE Infant School, we follow the daily Read Write Inc phonics programme which focuses on giving children the skills needed to break up words into individual sounds and blend sounds together to make words. The children are grouped across each year group to enable them to be taught at a level that accurately matches their current understanding and level of progress.

In addition to Read Write Inc, we feel it is necessary that our learners develop the comprehension skills and a love of reading necessary for lifelong success. Starting in EYFS, we have daily timetabled Reading sessions where the children learn to predict, read, discuss and evaluate a text that is appropriate for their reading level and age. During this time, they are also able to visit the library to borrow a book and listen to a story, use the iPads to access online stories and complete follow up activities based on the book they are reading.

Digging deeper and developing comprehension.

In Year Two teachers introduce a new text during the guided reading session and spend time extracting clues from the pictures and predicting the story plot before reading the text. This gives the children the opportunity to feel confident about the basic story plot before they begin to decode it aloud.

Developing a love of reading.

We are passionate about giving all of our children a love of reading to last a lifetime and have recently invested heavily in developing our 'Real Books' resources and book corners to make them stimulating and geared towards the children's current reading interests.

The teaching of writing.

At Blue Coat we believe that high quality, carefully planned learning opportunities are the only way to ensure both progression and enthusiasm in learning to write. Our carefully planned topics are personalised towards the children's interests and our learning in literacy is closely linked to this.

Presentation and handwriting is also a huge part of our curriculum. We have regular taught handwriting sessions, whereby we teach child to practice the cursive script style.

Read Write Inc



At Blue Coat Infant School and Nursery we use the Read Write Inc (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their literacy. RWI is a method of learning centred around letter sounds and phonics, and we use it to aid children in their reading and writing.

Reading opens the door to learning. A child who reads a lot will become a good reader. A good reader will be able to read more challenging material. A child who reads challenging material is a child who will learn. The more a child learns, the more he or she will want to find out.

Using RWI, the children learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read. It also allows them to spell effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into composing what they write.

When using RWI to read the children will:

- learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts
- learn to read words using Fred Talk
- read lively stories featuring words they have learned to sound out
- show that they comprehend the stories by answering questions.

When using RWI to write the children will:

- learn to write the letters/letter groups which represent 44 sounds.
- learn to write words by saying the sounds in Fred Talk
- write simple sentences

Parent Tutorial: Understanding Read Write Inc. Phonics

The first of our parent tutorials explains:

- Letter and sound correspondence
- Why learning to read and spell in English is more difficult than in other languages
- What the National Curriculum says about learning to read
- Why children love learning to read, write and spell using Read Write Inc. Phonics.

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/resources/parent-tutorial-1-understanding-read-write-inc-phonics/>

