



Reading and Phonics at Gorse Hall Primary and Nursery School



Children at Gorse Hall Primary School are immersed into a reading rich environment. Literacy is connected to all elements of school life and the opportunity to read is everywhere: signs, menus, labels, timetables, notices, newsletters, work in books, children's work on display, alphabet displays, whiteboards, magazines, books, comics, computers, name labels, item labels etc.

We place a huge emphasis on the importance of teaching reading. In our classrooms we use lots of different strategies in order to maximise every opportunity to read and ensure the children reach their potential and enjoy reading.

Phonics is taught in the EYFS and Key stage 1, we follow the *Letters and Sounds Phonics* programme. This supports the teaching of reading and early spelling. The children take part in a variety of games and activities in order to practise reading and writing new and key words. We use the jolly phonics actions to further embed the sounds into children's learning.

Children are read to throughout the week by teachers, teaching assistants, mid-day assistants. The reading scheme is finely graded to support children's learning. The books are specifically written to each particular words and reading skills. The careful structure of reading schemes encourages children's progress towards independent reading.

At Gorse Hall we use a range of books the majority are from Oxford University Press. The books are grouped as Oxford Reading Tree, Songbirds, Project X, Tree Tops. Occasionally other schemes are used to enhance reading skills, knowledge and understanding. Teachers will dip in and out of groups of books to use the appropriate books to teach children specific skills and words.

