

5 Ways to support your child's reading

Not only does the evidence suggest that regular reading has a positive impact on a child's attainment and academic progress, but it also reports how there is a positive link between reading and a child's mental wellbeing.

Here we answer some of the most common questions we receive regarding your child's reading.



1

How often should my child read?

Research indicates that there is 10 months of schooling difference in reading skills between teenagers who read fiction almost every day compared to those who never read fiction. If your child is a reluctant reader, start with 10 minutes a day, and work up to at least 30 minutes daily as the habit develops.

2

What should my child read?

Although non-fiction texts have a place in allowing your child to develop their general knowledge, research suggests that we should focus our efforts on encouraging our children to read novels and other lengthier fiction texts in order to develop their reading skills.

3

How can I help my child to find a book they'll enjoy?

This website not only organises books by genre, but also by age, supporting you in choosing books that are suitable for your child in terms of their reading ability and the content. You can also read an extract of the book online for free so your child can sample it before you purchase it or borrow it from a library. Or you can visit our virtual library to gain some further recommendations.

4

What questions should I ask my child about their reading?

Talk about what is happening in the book your child is reading. Ask them how they feel about what's happening. Question them on their predictions for what may happen next. Invite them to share what they would like to change about the plot and why. If there was a sequel or a prequel, what do they think it would be about and why?

5

How can I keep my child motivated with reading?

Share the research with your child that proves the benefits of building reading into their week. Start a family book club so that you all read the same text and therefore discuss it together. Create the right environment for reading to happen by removing distractions, and building a comfortable space to read together.