

St. Mary's School Reading Strategy

September 2026

Phonics:

Year R – Year 1 – 30minute phonics session each day using Little Wandle scheme (see Programme Progression summary). Daily Keep Up scheduled for any children falling behind

Year R - Children take home wordless books from week 3 of the first term until October half term. Then they are assessed and one appropriately levelled book is given out per week. Children are heard read twice a week after this. In the Spring term, two chronological books are sent home per week from the same set. One is a book they will have read in group reading, one is a new book. If after completing a set of books, a child has not mastered the sounds, they will repeat the set.

Year 2 – Little Wandle Fluency; daily Rapid Catch Up for children still on phonics scheme

All teachers **MUST** use the same terminology, scripts and session structure as provided by Little Wandle. repeatedly (eg. phoneme, digraph, 2 letters one sound, shuffle time 1-2-3 show me etc).

Reciprocal Reading

KS1

Every child should be listened to read by an adult at least twice a week (which is recorded in their reading record) during the Little Wandle guided reading sessions (0.5 hr, 2-3 x per week). The book covered is the book that goes home at the end of the week to be read with parents over the following week, plus an extra similarly levelled book (for those on the phonics scheme). Children also take home a book of their choice for 'the love of reading' which is intended that parents read to the child as it is not matched to their level. The bottom 20% of readers are heard read daily.

Pupils should read every night with parents for 10 minutes which is recorded in their reading record. Teaching staff changing books to identify any parents not doing this on a weekly basis so they can be contacted with a reminder.

Scheme books to be returned and changed on a Friday and recorded in the reading record. Year 2 pupils to select a book from class reading corners. Pupils are encouraged to complete AR reading quizzes about books they have read from the library.

KS2

Year 3 & Year 4

Every child should be listened to read by an adult once a week (recorded in their reading record).

Accelerated Reader assessment to be completed in the first two weeks of Autumn term 1 so that teachers can identify bottom 20% of readers in their class who will form 'daily readers' (to be recorded in reading record). The next 20% are heard on a biweekly basis.

Pupils to select a book from the library weekly from their relevant Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) as identified by Accelerated Reader (AR) assessment. Pupils are encouraged to complete AR reading quizzes about books they have read from the library.

Pupils should read every night with parents for 15 minutes (recorded in their reading record). TAs to identify any parents not doing this on a weekly basis so they can be contacted with a reminder. Books returned and changed on a Friday, but children may be taken to the library on an impromptu basis if they have finished their library books.

Accelerated Reader assessment completed in the last week of every half term.

Year 5 & 6

Every child should be listened to read by an adult once a week (recorded in their reading record).

Accelerated Reader assessment to be completed in the first two weeks of term so that teachers can identify bottom 20% of readers in their class who will form 'daily readers' (to be recorded in reading record). The next 20% are heard on a biweekly basis.

Pupils to select a book from the library weekly from their relevant Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD) as identified by Accelerated Reader (AR) assessment. Pupils are encouraged to complete AR reading quizzes about books they have read from the library.

Pupils should read every night with parents for 20 minutes (recorded in their reading record). TAs to identify any parents not doing this on a weekly basis so they can be contacted with a reminder. Books returned and changed on a Friday, but children may be taken to the library on an impromptu basis if they have finished their library books.

Accelerated Reader assessment completed in the last week of every half term.

In school reading and comprehension skills lessons

KS1 - Year 1

Little Wandle 0.5 hrs, 2-3 x per week (see book list)

KS1 - Year 2

Little Wandle 0.5 hrs, 2-3 x per week (see book list)

0.5hrs daily – Phonics to Fluency (see summary document)

Comprehension homework, daily session of reading and comprehension (Year 2s and higher Year 1s)

KS2

2 hours weekly of Reading Sessions in KS2

Scheme used Literacy Leaf

Lower Juniors – one of the hours every two weeks dedicated to reading comprehension papers

Upper Juniors - Autumn term - 2 sessions per week of reading book and answering questions which are a mixture of Literacy Leaf and SATs questions; Spring and Summer term – 1 book, one session reading/questions, one session SATs practise