



## All Faiths Children's Academy

22 November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

We are very proud to be fully launching our new reading scheme which now allows our Little Wandle books to be enjoyed by children all the way through the school. Children in Reception, Year one and two have already been working hard on their new phonics journeys and this will now include a wider use of the books for rapid catch-up readers as well as 7+ books for older readers who still require phonic support, moving into fluency books for our Key Stage 2 children who are not yet at free reading level.

Due to the change of scheme, you may find your child who was once a free reader has now been provided with a fluency book. We are happy that they continue to access books from our school library but we do ask you also read this fluency book with them to enable us to use our scheme effectively.

Our reading zoom charts have proven very successful and we will continue using this scheme. The expectation is all children read a minimum of 3 times a week. When they have completed 10 reads (this can include weekend reads) they will get 10 minutes of extra playtime hosted on a Friday. The rest of the class will enjoy story time within the classroom at the same point.

The reading process may also be new:

In Reception, Year one and two, your child will bring home a decodable reading practice book. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. This must be read 3 times and returned within a week (class teachers will advise the return date). This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together. They will be regularly assessed to check the reading stages.

We would appreciate a comment within the reading records on any elements they found challenging or coped well with.

We must have books returned within the time frame. You will be asked to pay £5 to compensate for any books that have not been returned within a week of using them as this has a great impact on the next groups and we will need to replace them immediately.

There will also be a sharing book; your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

In Key Stage 2, for fluency to be developed, children using fluency scheme will be read up to three times a week over two weeks. This means their fluency books will not be changed if this has not been evidenced. If they complete the set but have not improved enough to move up a level, they may re-read books from within this level.

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. A second sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

This does not apply to free readers- they are welcome to choose books from the library at any point and change them once they have finished. If your child is really not enjoying a book, it is not a problem to change it, provided this is not a regular action.

Investing in this scheme has been a necessary and exciting journey and we would like to extend our gratitude to the English Hub and our fabulous PTA who have supported this important purchase.

It is vital books are returned in good condition and on time. Lost books must be paid for and replaced. Please encourage your children to embrace reading and excite them for the worlds of imagination that await!

The Little Wandle website has further information and videos to support with your reading journey:

[www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/](http://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/)

kind regards

Miss Bolden and Mrs Bardoli