

At Sacred Heart we know that reading is essential for children’s development and supports their knowledge and understanding in a variety of subjects. Enjoying and sharing books, in school and at home, leads to children seeing books as a source of pleasure. We encourage children to have an interest in reading and, through enjoyment, hope to instil a love of reading and so motivating them to value reading.

Here at Sacred Heart, we are using the Read Write Inc (RWI) programme to get children off to a flying start with their English skills. RWI is a method of learning based upon letter sounds and phonics, and we use it to aid children in their reading.

The children are assessed regularly and grouped according to their ability. They will work with a RWI trained member of staff.

**Reading**

When using RWI to read, the children will:

* Learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple prompts
* Learn to read words using sound blending (Fred talk)
* Read lively stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out
* Show that they comprehend the stories by answering 'Find It' and 'Prove It'

**Blending**

Help your child learn to read words by sounding-blending (Fred talk) eg. c-a-t = cat, sh-o-p = shop. Children learn to read words by blending the letter-sounds.

Help your child to say the pure sounds ('m' not 'muh', 's' not 'suh' etc.) as quickly as they can, and then blend the sounds together to say the whole word.

**Read Write Inc Books**

Please encourage your child to read though the speed sounds page first, then the green and red words page and then check your child understands the meaning of words on the vocabulary check page, before they start reading the book. Your child will have read this book at least three times before they bring it home. They should be able to read this book with fluency and expression by the time they bring it home and they should have a good comprehension of what the book is about. At the back of the book are find it/prove it questions for you to do with your child.

The school will also send parents/carers useful videos to help you to support your child at home.

Finally, don't worry if your child is struggling at first with their sounds and words, they will get there in their own time. If you have time (we know it is very precious!), we would urge you to try and read stories to your child before they go to bed. This will help develop a wider vocabulary which makes a vast difference to their quality of writing but it will also encourage them to enjoy a good story.

These links may be useful:

[Home - Ruth Miskin Literacy](https://www.ruthmiskin.com/)

Oxford Owls - [Login](https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/login?active-tab=students)

[Odd And Bob (Phase 2) - Online Phonics Game](https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/odd-and-bob?phase=2)