

AAS HOME READING POLICY

Our aims are:

- To encourage children to read
- To provide extra opportunities for reading
- To promote a love of reading
- To provide opportunity for parents/carers to share books with their children
- To help parents/carers understand the process of learning to read.

Expectations for reading at home

At Astrea Academy Sheffield, we whole-heartedly believe that reading is of vital importance to all children. We believe that it is our moral duty to ensure that all of the children in our care are taught how to read and how to understand what they have read, and link it to their own lives and experiences. All pupils are encouraged to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live; to establish an appreciation and love of reading; and to gain knowledge across the curriculum. Reading widely increases pupils' vocabulary because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech.

Home reading development

Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1:

Children begin to take books home from the autumn term in the Reception year. Children are given a 'Reading Record' book at the beginning of Reception and Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 where they record their progress.



In **Reception** and **Key Stage 1**, children are encouraged to read at home every day. In this phase, children are sent home with **one reading** scheme book **per week** which is carefully chosen to **match each child's phonetic learning progression**. An additional library book is sent home each week to encourage a love of reading.



Key Stage 2

Throughout Key Stage 2, children are expected to read at home each day. They may borrow a book from school as well as choosing to read books of their own. Once a child progresses off of the Read, Write, Inc programme, they become 'free' readers. They must bring their reading record back weekly, with their book, and be prepared to read to the class teacher or a member of support staff. To select books the children use the Five Finger Rule.

They read the first page and hold up one finger for every word they don't know or can't pronounce. The number of fingers they're holding up by the end of the page tells them if the book is the right level:

0-1 fingers: It's too easy.

2-3 fingers: It's just right.

4-5 fingers: It's too hard (or best read aloud with a buddy).



Resources

Children may read:

- A variety of books provided by the school including those on the Reading Scheme
- A book from home
- A school library book
- A book from a local library
- Magazines, comics, newspapers and other reading materials
- Kindles.

Children are encouraged to treat books with care and to carry books in a **school bag or folder** in order to protect them. All school books should be returned to school.

Expectations of children

- To take good care of and appreciate all books
- To take responsibility for changing their reading book regularly
- When capable, to record their progress and opinions on the books they read
- To remember to bring their reading book and Reading Record to school each day.

Expectations of Teachers and support staff

- To foster a love of reading
- To establish a reading culture and promote links with the wider community
- To encourage and support children and parents/carers who have difficulties establishing a home reading habit
- To celebrate achievements and share children's enjoyment of reading
- To listen to all children read at least once during the week.
- To check and sign reading records
- To provide verbal feedback to the child on their progress