

**Love  
Respect  
Shine**

**Cheadle Catholic Infant School**  
Conway Road, Cheadle Hulme,  
Stockport, Cheshire, SK8 6DB  
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[admin@cheadle-inf.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cheadle-inf.stockport.sch.uk)

Headteacher: **Mrs. Pamela Glynn** BA (Hons) QTS

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Claire Lees B.ED (Hons)

# **Reading and Phonics at Cheadle Catholic Infant School.**

***'The more you read, the better you're going to become as a storyteller.'***

Stan Lee, Marvel Comics

***'The more you read, the more you know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go,'***

Dr Seuss

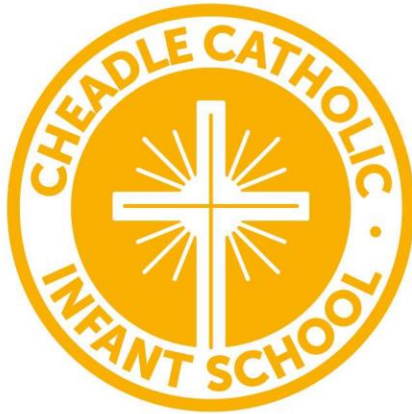
At Cheadle Catholic Infant School we encourage children to become resilient readers and confident communicators. Reading is prioritised to enable all children to access the curriculum.

Learning to read is the most important thing your child will learn at our school. Everything else depends on it, so we put as much energy as we possibly can into making sure that every single child learns to read as quickly as possible. We want all children to **love** reading and to want to read.

## **Reading For Pleasure:**

At Cheadle Catholic Infant School we acknowledge that one of the most crucial ways of getting children to engage in reading and adopt it as a life long habit is for children to know that it is fun. Therefore, we have chosen to promote 'reading for pleasure' at every given opportunity. Throughout the year, children will be given regular opportunities to develop a love of reading such as; listen to books all the way through without interruption, discover new authors and illustrators, share their own favourite books, share books with their parents, see adults enjoying reading as a pleasurable experience, visit the school library, develop their own sense of what they enjoy in a book, dress up, 'Drop Everything And Read' and make





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positive associations between reading books and enjoying themselves. In doing so, we are giving the children the clear message that reading is fun, it is for everyone and it is something that they want to do.

As Mem Fox famously said

***"When I say to parents 'Read to a child', I don't want it to sound like medicine, I want it to sound like chocolate"***

This is what we want for our children.

Mrs Nelson is our School Librarian. She plans regular and exciting reading challenges, promotes new authors and supports teachers in the teaching of reading in our school. She also organises our school library. We subscribe to the Cheshire Library Service which allows us to borrow new, exciting books to keep the books in our classroom fresh and make sure that we can cater to all tastes- fiction, picture books, chapter books, non-fiction, poetry- and engage all children

### **Reading & Phonics:**

Our consistent and rigorous approach to teaching early reading enables children to master the key skills that research suggests is important early on.

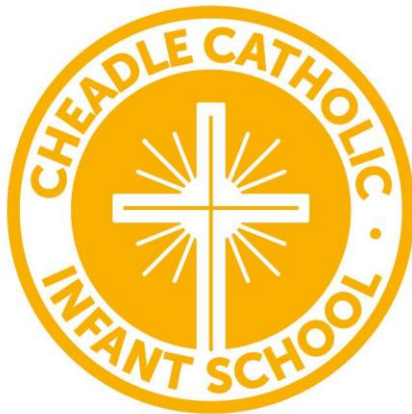
To do this, we follow the [Read Write Inc.](#) programme; this sets out a sequence of lessons that teaches children to read accurately and fluently with good comprehension. They also learn to form each letter, spell correctly and compose their ideas step-by-step.

### **Reading**

Your child will:

- Learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple prompts.
- Learn to read words using sound blending (Fred talk) e.g. c-a-t = cat, sh-o-p = shop.
- Read 'red words' these are words that have less common spelling patterns.
- Read lively stories featuring words they have learnt to sound out.
- Show that they comprehend the stories by answering questions on the text.





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## Writing

Your child will:

- Learn to write the letter/letter groups which represent the 44 sounds.
- Learn to write words by saying the sounds and graphemes (Fred fingers).
- Learn to write simple then more complex sentences.
- Compose stories.
- Compose a range of texts using discussion prompts.

## Speaking

Your child will learn how to:

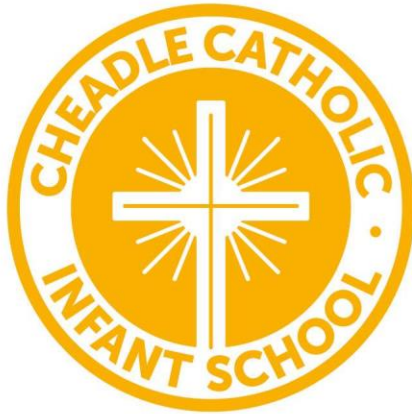
- Answer questions
- Practise every activity orally.
- Take turns talking and listening to each other.
- Give positive praise to each other.

**Read Write Inc.**

### Read. Write Inc. has 5 underlying principles – the five Ps:

- **PACE** – no time is wasted during teaching sessions. Children are active and involved in a fun and creative way. The aim is for the children to complete the programme as quickly as possible.
- **PRAISE** – teachers praise the children constantly throughout the teaching sessions. Children learn more quickly when they are praised for what they do well, rather than told what they do wrong. The children are encouraged to praise each other.





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- **PURPOSE** – each activity has a very clear purpose. The teacher will set this purpose at the beginning of the lesson so that the children know exactly what they will be learning.
- **PARTICIPATION** – all children take part in all parts of the lesson. Full participation is gained through partner work and choral response.
- **PASSION** – as a staff we are passionate about our teaching and the benefits of the Read, Write Inc. programme. We love teaching the sessions and this enthusiasm rubs off onto the children.

### **Developing Reading:**

The study of English promotes reading as a way of acquiring knowledge and as a way of exploring the world in different ways which enriches children's understanding.

Children will be immersed in a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry throughout their primary journey. Reading is prioritised to allow access to the full curriculum offer, as it is our belief that reading is a necessity for children as it lays the foundations for many of the skills they will explore on their academic journey.

In order to teach children to develop their reading fluency and comprehension skills further, we believe it is vital that children experience high quality modelling from adults in school.

They are given support where appropriate and the opportunity for independent practice of skills. As a class the areas of development are identified and focused intervention takes place during the lesson.

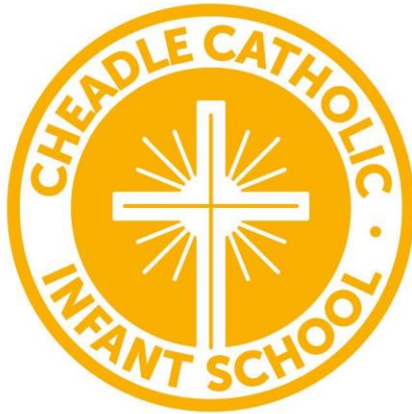
### **Shared Reading:**

Shared Reading forms part of the daily phonics lessons and is led by class teachers. All texts are linked to the child's phonic ability. Children enjoy one focus text per week and learning activities support accurate and fluent reading to facilitate comprehension.

### **Home Reading**

While a child is learning to read, they will be given the storybook that they have read in class so that they can practise re-reading it at home. This is done to help them build their





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confidence and fluency. Children will also be given a 'book bag book' which will be an exciting text that they will be able to read themselves; this is because they will have learnt all the letters and 'red words' already in class but parents or carers can offer some help if the child needs it.

These books are matched to each child's phonics ability and are closely monitored by teachers to ensure that children are reading books of an appropriate level.

**It is really important that parents or carers listen to their child read every night if possible.**

Finally, your child will be given a library book; this book is for the parent or carer to read to the child and it is crucial at helping the child expand their vocabulary and develop their love for reading. This book is not necessarily one that they will be able to read themselves, especially if your child is at the beginning of their reading journey, and they will probably need an adult to read it with them. These books are perfect for sharing as a family, using as a bedtime story or showing to a friend or grandparent and help children to create positive associations with books and reading.

As outlined above, all children will be given two reading books per week plus one school library book and no more. It is important for parents to understand that 'racing' through the reading scheme does not help children to read. Children learn to read well when they enjoy what they are reading, can talk about it, infer, predict and want to read more!! If you feel that your children need to read more than the reading books they are given please read their favourite books from home or choose books from the local library. The more books children read the better readers and writers they become.

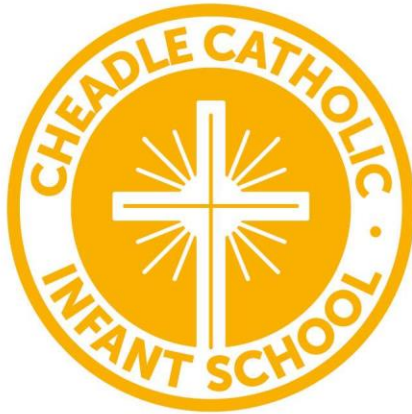
### **Developing writing:**

Our English curriculum provides many opportunities for writing with real purpose, including poetry, fiction and non-fiction.

Children are actively encouraged to challenge themselves in writing lessons to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of different text types and genres. Across the study of







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English, children will be exposed to excellent examples of a wide variety of texts, and will be given many opportunities to explore the role of the author.

Across all writing activities, children will be encouraged to enhance and extend their vocabulary, grammatical accuracy, and will develop their ability to construct and manipulate sentences for effect.

The development of spelling, punctuation and grammar is also a key part of our English curriculum, and is embedded within our writing lessons. From letter formation at the beginning of their academic journey, to writing narratives in Year 2, teachers encourage children to have the highest standards in English.

We have planned a reading/ phonic workshop for parents on:

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.**

At this meeting we will talk about phonics and reading in more depth and answer any questions you may have.

In the meantime if you have any questions at all please contact us or your class teacher.

Kind regards,

Mrs Glynn (Headteacher)

Mrs Lees (Deputy Headteacher, English leader)

Mrs Nelson (Year 2 teacher, Reading for Pleasure leader and School Librarian)

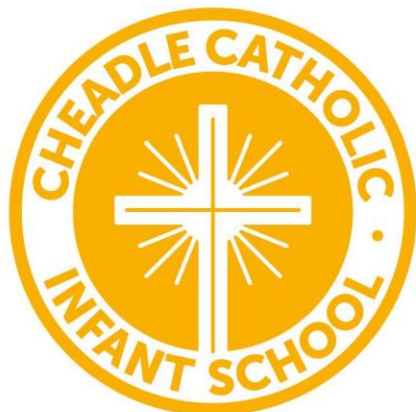
**Online resources available for Read, Write Inc links:**

Ruth Miskin Parents' Page: <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/>

Ruth Miskin Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

Free e-books for home reading: <http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>





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### **Useful Links**

There are a number of resources available through the BBC website:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play>

#### **Family Learning:**

[http://http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics\\_games.html](http://http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html)

#### **Phonics Play**

Although this is a subscription website there are some games available for free.

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

<http://www.bookstart.co.uk/>

Oxford Owl is a free website built to support you with your child's learning. You'll find age-specific reading and maths tips and activities, eBooks, and lots of fun ideas to really bring your child's learning to life. You will also find support and advice on a range of questions you may have – including helping your child with their phonics, motivating boys to read and ensuring your child is doing their best in maths.

<http://www.bookstart.co.uk/>

This website provides information about the national Bookstart scheme and the Bookstart packs that your child will receive as a baby, a toddler and at age three to four. It also gives information about sharing books with your child. You can find out about Bookstart events in your area, which you can attend with your child.

