

The Round House Primary Academy

Part of The Diamond Learning Partnership Trust

Established in the Queen's Jubilee Year 2012

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Dear Parents & Carers

Home Reading at The Round House Primary Academy

We are writing to explain in a little more detail our rationale for reading at home and how we aim to ensure that all children leaving our school in Y6 can read to an acceptable standard.

As a school, we use reading schemes and systems to ensure that children learn to read effectively.

These include:

- Phonic phase matched books (EYFS and Y1)
- Colour Banded books (Y1 upwards)
- Accelerated Reader (Y3 upwards)

All of these have been carefully put together to help your child learn how to read. When your child is learning to read, it is important to give them books that are the right level of challenge. Books that are too hard can be frustrating – and can risk putting a child off reading. Books that are very easy can sometimes be fun, but they're not the best way to improve reading skills.

As a school, we expect children to read at home for **10 minutes, 5 days a week**. This needs to be 10 minutes of reading the book that has been matched to their **current reading level**, by their class teacher. We removed the expectation for writing homework in order to ensure that reading at home takes priority.

For each year group, this is as follows:

- EYFS – 10 minutes/5 days a week of their **phonic phase matched book**. The same book can be read more than once if books are only changed 2 x per week.
- Y1 – 10 minutes/5 days a week of their **coloured banded level book**.
- Y2 – 10 minutes/5 days a week of their **coloured banded level book**. Some children in Y2 may move on to Accelerated Reader during the year.
- Y3/4/5/6 – 10 minutes/5 days a week of their **Accelerated Reader level book**

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This levelled reading book needs to be recorded in your child's reading diary/record **each time they read at home**. If children read their levelled book more than 5 times in a week, this can be recorded in their reading diary but a maximum of 7 reads are counted each week. We ask that you do 5 reads as we feel this allows an element of flexibility about the days on which you read. In addition to this, all children are reminded at the end of the school day to make sure they have their reading book and reading record. We encourage children to be responsible for changing their book and making sure they take it home each night.

Whilst we value the importance of these scheme books for developing children's reading, we also strongly believe that children should be encouraged to read and share books to develop a love of reading for pleasure. We promote this in many ways across the school, including:

- children in Reception taking home a reading for pleasure book to share each week
- 100 Read books for Y1/2/3/4/5/6. Children are able to sign up to this and take home books each week.
- reading to and sharing books with children daily in school

These books, and any additional books that children might read at home, **do not need** to be recorded in your child's reading diary. However, all class teachers are always happy to talk to children about what they are enjoying reading at home. We are proud to have a culture in our school of valuing the importance of reading and celebrating a love of books.

If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of the senior leadership team on the gate.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy Bryden', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mrs Tracy Bryden
Executive Headteacher
On behalf of The Round House Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)