



Hazelwood Schools

Reading for Pleasure Policy

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Review every three years

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1. Reading for Pleasure - Aims and Objectives

At Hazelwood Primary School, the active encouragement of reading for pleasure is a core part of every child's educational entitlement, whatever their background or attainment. Hazelwood Schools takes the view that extensive reading and exposure to a wide range of texts makes a vital contribution to every child's educational achievement. Reading for pleasure at Hazelwood School aims to establish each child as a lifetime reader. Studies are accumulating that emphasise the importance of reading for pleasure for both educational as well as personal development. These studies show that promoting reading can have a major impact on children, their future and their life chances. This policy, although linked to the English Policy, stands alone in its promotion and encouragement of reading as a pleasurable activity and should be used to engrain the philosophy for a wide range of reading within the fabric of the school.

2. What the School Does

2.1 Access to a wide range of texts/books

The school undertakes and implements plans to ensure there is a wide range of texts within each classroom. Provision is made to provide texts that accommodate all reading ages within a class.

Texts include:

- Age-related fiction and non-fiction
- Magazines, newspapers (the school subscribes to First News)
- Comics
- Short stories
- Poetry
- Internet based texts, accessed via tablets and
- PCs
- Children's own work (within books and displays)

2.2 Teacher's Role

Teachers at Hazelwood School regularly read to children during guided reading and at the end of the day. Children can benefit tremendously from being read to aloud. Effective reading aloud time is all about creating a positive reading experience to engage the students, so teachers model their enthusiasm for books and reading them. Teachers do not just read to the class but interact with them: ask questions about what has been read or the pictures they have been shown. This helps improve students' comprehension of the story. When choosing books to read aloud, a balance is struck between following the students' preferences and inviting them to try new types of books to expand their horizons and spark new interests.

Year 3 and Year 5 take part in a Reading Road Map challenge whereby they choose books from different genres and have a chart to complete. When children read a certain amount

of books they are awarded with a bronze, silver or gold certificate for their efforts. The aim is to read all the genres.

Teachers also discuss books of personal interest, regularly referencing books and promoting different genres. This fosters a love of reading that is passed onto the children. Using class rewards, book clubs, reading diaries are other ways teachers stimulate this love of reading.

2.3 Reading for Pleasure Activities

Each teacher will research class novels to read as a literacy study. Each novel that is carefully chosen is with the aim to enhance and develop children's wider literacy skills. Teachers will choose a variety of different genres in order to promote access to a range of them. Regular time for students to read self-chosen books also happens weekly.

School Assemblies are used to send out messages about reading events to the whole school. Reading slots are included as a regular feature, as are award ceremonies for reading challenges, visits from members of the community to explain why reading is important to them :authors / storyteller / poets / singer song writers.

One of the most popular activities in upper KS2 is where children write a book review and the teacher chooses one to share on school website. Teachers will routinely select a book listed in the Class Book Club and invite a child who has recommended it to say a few words to the class on why the book was a pleasure to read.

At Hazelwood School, we value the importance of peer learning and encourage positive relationships across the school. Buddy reading has so far proved a positive experience for all involved. This activity takes place half-termly with younger and older classes matched. Pupils are encouraged to share their favourite books, listen to each other read and discuss the text in an informal, relaxed way.

2.4 Reading for Pleasure and Links with Home and Parents

The school uses yellow reading record diaries to liaise with home and parents (this is about encouraging reading 10 to 20 minutes a day, 5 times a week). The children are encouraged to move through a series of colour banded books to reward their reading progress while reading for pleasure. Parents in KS1 comment on the child's enjoyment of the book, reading fluency and comprehension. In KS2, the children are expected to comment themselves as well as the parents.

2.5 School Library and Reading corners

Every classroom within Hazelwood School will have a classroom reading corner set up to promote reading for pleasure. Each classroom library will contain a theme and books from a variety of genres, by a variety of authors and cover a wide range of potential areas of interest. It serves as a constant stimulus for the child to pick up a book and start reading. By providing access to a rich classroom library, teachers promote increased reading frequency and more diverse reading experiences for each child. In addition, Hazelwood School believes

a rich classroom library will increase pupils' literacy-related skills, promote phonemic awareness, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing and serve as a place where each child can talk about and interact with books.

In order to fulfil these functions, each classroom library will offer a wide range of categories of reading materials:

- Stories and narrative accounts, e.g. Fairy tales, folk tales, and biographies
- Picture books with thought-provoking images and examples of artistic talent
- Information books
- Miscellaneous reading materials, such as : popular magazines, newspapers, recipe books, encyclopaedias, maps, reports, captioned photographs, posters, diaries and letters
- Joke books, comic books, word-puzzle books
- Student-authored books and stories
- Poetry

Children are also encouraged to use the school library to stimulate and support their reading of a wide range of texts from fiction to interest / topic-related non-fiction. Every class, and every child, will have the opportunity to visit the School Library to borrow and explore the books on a weekly basis; the School Library is open at lunch times and after school to ensure the children have further access to the numerous books on offer.

Hazelwood schools also hosts a book fair twice a year whereby a certain percentage of the profit is used to replenish and update books for the school.

In addition to this, Hazelwood School works with Islington Library to provide books on related school topics for the children which they cover in other cross curricular subjects such as History, R.E etc.

2.6 Professional Development Professional

Training and guidance is made available for staff to support their understanding and develop their skills in promoting reading for pleasure through:

- Attending training events
- Staff meetings and INSET days
- Discussions with senior leadership, including the Literacy subject leader