

Readers

At Evergreen, we recognise that reading is a **fundamental life skill** and the **foundation of all learning**.

Intent

Evergreen readers learn from a **progressive curriculum** to enjoy reading and being read to. They understand the **importance of reading for their future lives**. They build reading fluency as well as consider the impact of language, and build their knowledge of words and their use of literature to make strong academic progress across different curriculum areas.

Learners understand that **reading is a life skill**. Our curriculum covers the key skills **learners need to become confident, fluent readers for life** – understanding inference, retrieval of information and how vocabulary can enhance meaning. Within the Evergreen community, **reading is encouraged and respected as a fundamental building block within society**.

Implementation

Early readers are encouraged to respond to stories they have heard through talk and play. Decodable books link directly to each child's phonics skills and a structured system is in place to support these books being taken home. Once a child is able to read phonetically, they will read levelled books which will grow with their ever-widening vocabulary and phonic knowledge while supporting comprehension skills. Regular assessment ensures that book levels are accurate to meet the child's needs. **New arrivals to the school are supported effectively** and assessed so that relevant phonics and comprehension support can be put in place. As learners build phonics knowledge, reading skills are introduced through Daily Reading sessions to support their progress as a reader, following a progressive curriculum that **builds knowledge and skills over time**. In EYFS and KS1 lessons follow a guided reading, carousel structure with four groups in each class enjoying the same four activities each week. In Years 3 to 6, reading lessons start with a DERIC activity for learners to develop their Decoding, Explanation, Retrieval, Interpretation and author's Choice skills. This activity is followed by a teacher-led session following the **Evergreen STAR pedagogy**.

Learners visit the school libraries regularly, where teachers **model effective practice** and support learners to choose interesting, enjoyable and challenging texts. A strong partnership with the local public library enhances this experience through termly visits and guest readers visiting on a regular basis. We have strong partnerships with Ablaze reading who read with children weekly. Learners, parents and teachers use a Reading Log or Reading Bookmark to monitor, communicate about and celebrate reading.

1-4-1 Reading

We aim to listen to all children across the academy read at least once a week from a range of different adults. This promotes a love of reading, provides additional opportunities for fluency and ensures reading is prioritised across the academy. Children are heard read by PCSOs, reading volunteers, Bristol Sport coaches, Engage readers, admin staff, senior leaders, teachers and learning support assistants. In providing this opportunity at Evergreen, we are enabling children to enhance their cultural capital through carefully chosen reading books, expand their vocabulary and develop relationships with adults in our local community. We aim to develop independent, fluent and confident readers who want to read, regardless of their background, needs or abilities.

Impact

Reading is a **fundamental building block** for our learners' knowledge and understanding their world. Learners at Evergreen show a love of reading and make strong progress during internal and national assessments, **regardless of their starting point**. Evergreen readers can confidently stand and read to an audience of their peers, use their reading skills to support their wider academic progress and participate in discussions about what they have read and what they have enjoyed reading.