



Reading Across OHS

At OHS, we view reading as an entitlement for all and that reading is a key transferable skill that will support each young person to thrive both academically and socially

	Early Reading	Reading for Meaning Across the Curriculum	Reading in the English Curriculum KS3/4	Reading for Pleasure
Approach	<p>In Foundation Stage & KS1, we support synthetic phonics programmes from the enrolled school, wherever possible. Pupils participate in regular phonics lessons matched to their current needs.</p> <p>Please see: OHS Phonics Policy EYFS Policy</p>	<p>Opportunities to read are embedded into lessons across the curriculum. Pupils develop their fluency, comprehension and vocabulary through exploring and discussing a range of texts. Strong links are made between oracy and reading and the teaching of subject specific vocabulary is prioritised.</p>	<p>Through studying set texts alongside a range of classic and modern literature, pupils are encouraged to widen their vocabulary, develop inference, analysis, summarising and comparison skills. Pupils work 1:1 or in small groups and approaches are bespoke to individual need. Pupils support their understanding and opinions through discussion and are supported in making references to, and links between, texts and contexts.</p>	<p>All pupils across the school have access to a wide range of physical and online reading materials outside of their lessons and outside of the school day. Teaching staff provide additional support and recommendations where needed. A range of enrichment activities such as visiting authors, storytellers and themed events help to raise engagement and participation across the school.</p>
Assessment	<p>Each pupil undergoes a period of initial assessment on entry to OHS. This usually takes place over the first few lessons and gives an initial indication of abilities and levels of working. Teaching staff use a range of assessment approaches appropriately matched to individual needs. This, alongside historical and/or current information from the enrolled school is used to identify a starting point for teaching. Assessment may often be through 'low stakes' approaches such as using short phrases, activities or games - and used in such a way that pupils may not even realise that they're being assessed. For some pupils, such as those pupils studying for English GCSE examinations, more robust assessment approaches (like reading from a set text or attempting some questions from a GCSE reading paper) may be used to gain an understanding of their current working grade and abilities. The impact of illness on abilities varies greatly between individual pupils therefore, following any initial assessment, teaching staff use on-going observations and continuous assessment to ensure that young people are appropriately challenged in their reading and any gaps are identified and supported. Any reading difficulties are discussed with, and supported by, the OHS and/or the enrolled school SENCo.</p>			
Access to Reading Materials	<p>We recognise the importance of practice to embed reading skills. In Foundation Stage and KS1 (and at times for older pupils) books matched to pupils' phonics abilities are used to ensure that they experience a wide breadth of reading genres. In KS2, books are available by age appropriate and text difficulty and pupils can freely choose these books. Teaching staff monitor choices to ensure texts are appropriate for reading abilities and are appropriately challenging.</p>	<p>Pupils are given access to a wide range of reading materials that reflect the curriculum and the diversity of the modern world. Teaching staff support access to high quality, challenging texts through independent and shared reading.</p>	<p>Pupils have access to texts from their enrolled schools and examination bodies, alongside bespoke choices made by teaching staff at OHS, often linked to areas of interest and motivation.</p>	<p>Pupils have access to reading materials across the school. At the Children's Hospital, Helen House Hospice and the NOC, high quality books are supplied termly through the charity 'Read for Good' and portable trolleys ensure these can be accessed by pupils at their bedside and on the wards. At the Highfield Unit, a range of reading materials are readily accessible in the classrooms for use in and outside of the school day. In Outreach, pupils at Hill End and in community settings have access to physical reading materials through their teachers and all pupils have access to a wide range of reading materials through the 'Listening Books' app.</p>

Please also refer to the [OHS English & Literacy Curriculum Statement](#)