



Intent Statement – Reading

Reading is regarded as a tool for life at Farnsfield St Michael's and is part of our broad and balanced curriculum in many ways. We aim to develop a love for reading and for the children to read for pleasure regularly, for 'Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.' (Joseph Addison – Poet and Playwright). Reading provides the children with a sense of well-being and often enables them to experience a new world and new experiences. As Dr. Laurie Helgoe (Author and Psychologist) said, 'Reading is like travel, allowing you to exit your own life for a bit, and to come back with a renewed, even inspired, perspective.' We hope to encourage our children to live this in their life in a balanced and reflective way.

We encourage all children to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to develop an understanding of others and the world in which they live; to establish an appreciation of the power of a story on themselves and others; to gain knowledge across the curriculum; and develop their comprehension skills. Within this breadth of reading, we also aim to develop the children's language skills and a rich vocabulary to encourage not only their understanding of the text, but their discussion, presentation and participation confidence, supporting them in any subject in their primary and secondary education and beyond. As children move on from their primary education with us, their passion for reading and love for quality texts travels with them and continues to grow and develop as they do.