

## Our approach to Reading

At Engaines we give a high priority to the teaching of Literacy Skills as we know that they are central to learning and equip children for their future. The teaching of reading is central to our endeavour to ensure that all children leave with an ability to read well.

We structure the teaching of reading from Early Years to Year 6 to ensure that skills development is matched to age and ability. We aim to produce confident independent readers who will develop a love of books and literature and be able to access reading for both pleasure, as well as to find and research information to help them discover the world around them.

We use 'Letters and Sounds' to teach phonics and this starts in the Foundation Stage.

### What is Letters and Sounds?

Letters and Sounds is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills in 2007. It aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting by the age of five, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by age seven.

There are six overlapping phases. For more detailed information, visit the [Letters and Sounds](#) website.

There are many opportunities for teachers and other adults to hear children read. For example this may be in the form of guided reading, reading a text during a history lesson or as part of a phonics session. Children may also receive additional support with their reading from Teaching Assistants, during intervention sessions.

We encourage parents to be actively involved with their children's reading by hearing them read at home, helping them with their sound cards and finding opportunities to share and enjoy books together. When the school organises special reading events, we encourage parents to support them.

We use a range of reading schemes across both Key Stages in order to provide children with a good choice of books both fiction and non-fiction.