



Reading for Pleasure

Sticklepath Intent



Our curricular aims are to develop **Growing Minds** that are **Curious, Critical Communicators**.

Reading for Pleasure sits at the heart of learning at Sticklepath, where the value of promoting a lifelong love of reading is respected by all. As keen reading advocates we want to ensure that all children who pass through our classrooms experience the joy waiting inside a book, because they have found one that speaks to them. We want to empower children to become critical thinkers and select books based on personal preferences, giving them ownership over their reading choices. We want to light the fire and inspire children to read for themselves.

We know that fostering a habit of reading for pleasure in young people helps them to be more successful in school, but reading for pleasure also has the ability to do more than increase school outcomes. Reading widely and voraciously also opens up the world. For pupils at Sticklepath School, books spark a curiosity to learn about and empathise with times, locations and cultures which are hugely different to their own. But the opposite is also true and equally important. Reading gives our pupils the opportunity to hear voices and stories that represent their own lives, that capture, validate and enrich their own experiences. It also nurtures a love of language helping our pupils to find their voices and to become articulate communicators.

To enrich our community of readers, Sticklepath School enlists many original and engaging ways to generate excitement and discussion around good literature. These include vibrant book weeks, regular author/ storyteller visits, weekly 'Book and Biscuit' sessions with our younger readers, weekly library time, engagement with our local library and book recommendation sessions as part of our assemblies, to name but a few. We also are fortunate to have a thriving school library led by a knowledgeable school librarian and trained pupil ambassadors. All of these factors create an attractive reading environment, encouraging all children to take flight and enjoy their own reading adventures.

