

Reading at Nanstallon

At Nanstallon School, we believe reading is the gateway to the whole curriculum and to lifelong learning. Our aim is for all the children to become confident, fluent and motivated readers who can read accurately, understand deeply and develop a genuine love of books and texts.

We place high importance on foundational reading skills, particularly decoding, fluency and automaticity. These skills allow children to focus their attention on meaning, vocabulary and enjoyment. Alongside this, we want children to read widely and often, to talk about what they read and to see themselves as readers with choice and agency.

We believe that confident readers are made through:

- Systematic teaching of phonics and decoding
- Regular practice to build fluency
- Exposure to rich, high-quality texts
- Time and encouragement to read for pleasure



How Reading Is Taught

Reading is taught daily across the school and is carefully structured to ensure clear progression from Early Years to Year 6. Teaching focuses on accurate decoding, developing fluency, comprehension and discussion and reading for enjoyment and purpose.

EYFS and KS1	KS2
<div data-bbox="427 469 736 552" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>In Reception and Key Stage 1, we teach phonics through Super Sonic Phonic Friends, a systematic and structured scheme which ensures all children develop secure decoding skills.</p> <p>Children begin with rhyme, alliteration and build solid foundations in oral blending and segmenting. They then learn letter-sound correspondences, practise blending and segmenting and read books closely matched to their phonics knowledge.</p> <p>Reading books are carefully selected so that children can read them successfully and confidently, applying the phonics they have been taught.</p> <p>Guided Reading and Fluency</p> <p>Children read in guided reading groups, matched closely to their current phonics and reading ability. These sessions focus on accurate decoding, developing expression and pace and understanding vocabulary and meaning.</p> <p>Once children read at 60 words per minute, they progress onto fluency books, where the focus is building speed, accuracy and prosody. Children's fluency is assessed regularly. When they reach 100 words per minute, they move onto become independent readers, choosing texts with increasing confidence and independence.</p>	<div data-bbox="1473 469 1711 552" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>In Key Stage 2, reading is taught both discreetly and as part of English lessons. Children explore a wide range of high-quality texts together, developing their comprehension through discussion, questioning and close reading.</p> <p>Teaching focuses on developing fluency, accuracy and expression, deepening understanding of vocabulary and meaning and analysing language, structure and authorial choices</p> <p>Fluency continues to be explicitly taught and practised throughout Key Stage 2, recognising its vital role in supporting comprehension and confidence.</p> <p>To further strengthen decoding, spelling knowledge and word recognition, we use Super Sonic Spelling Stars. This approach supports children to secure spelling patterns and word structures, make links between phonics, spelling and reading and read unfamiliar words with increasing automaticity</p> <p>Spellings Stars sessions help children recognise how words work, enabling them to read more accurately and fluently, particularly as texts become more complex.</p> <p>As children move through Key Stage 2, they are also taught how to approach comprehension questions, learning strategies to retrieve information, infer meaning and explain their thinking clearly.</p>

Reading for Pleasure

Reading for pleasure is a core value at Nanstallon School. We believe that children who enjoy reading are more likely to read often and widely.

To support this, we:

- Provide high-quality texts in classrooms and shared spaces
- Include a wide range of genres, including comics, newspaper and poetry
- From Reception up to Year 6, children borrow 'Reading for Pleasure' books weekly, alongside their regular reading book
- Encourage children to talk about books and recommend texts to one another through reading buddies, class book votes and whole school reading events

We celebrate reading through whole-school events such as our annual Poetry Slam, and by regularly engaging with authors, illustrators and performers to inspire and motivate our readers.

