



# Ryecroft C.E. Middle School

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Dear Parents/ Carers

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Reading and writing are some of life's most essential skills. At Ryecroft C.E. Middle School, we hope that all children will develop a love of books, enthusiasm for promoting their reading skills, in order for them to become confident, competent readers and technically skilled, creative writers. As a parent or carer you play a vital role in supporting your child's reading and writing development, our partnership between home and school is essential for success with this life skill. Thus, we have developed a support guide for English in order for you to help your child develop their English skills.

## Reading

Your child's reading experience is much more than the reading book which comes home from school. Reading is happening all the time in our classrooms and across school. It is taught in English lessons, but children are practising and using their 'reading' constantly across all subjects too.

Pupils have taken a reading benchmark assessment and a letter has been sent to parents about their child's reading age. These reading levels have then been matched to the appropriate reading band and we have invested a substantial amount of money in new books from a variety of genres. Thus, allowing the pupils to have access to an exciting variety of age appropriate texts to further develop their love of reading.

## Lost reading books

As you are aware reading books do cost a lot of money to purchase and we need to be able to track books which have been damaged or lost by children at home. If your child does not return their school library book or damage it, they will be issued with a 'Missing or damaged book' letter and this reminder is sent home. The letter will also request that if your child has damaged or is unable to find the book then a fee be paid to cover the cost of the book. The teacher will notify the office, who will set up the fee to be paid on parent pay.

## How can parents and carers support children?

Parents can support this 'reading journey' through regular reading at home. Reading to and with your child every evening, for at least ten minutes, can make a dramatic difference to a child's achievement within school.

Here are some tips for reading with your child at home, including:

1. Make time to read - even ten minutes a day.
2. Choose different types of books.
3. Take turns to read.
4. Talk about the book - asking your child questions.

## UTTOXETER LEARNING TRUST

Part of the Uttoxeter Learning Trust  
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5. Visit the local library together and enjoy book-talk about your favourite texts.
6. Read comics, web sites, posters, signs, instructions in fact anything at all!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

*K Sargeant*

**Miss K Sargeant**  
**Head of English**