Reading at Langwith Bassett

October 2026

What we will cover

- Why reading matters
- How we teach reading
- How we assess reading
- Why children sometimes keep the same book
- How parents can help

Reading is a partnership between home and school.

Why Reading Matters

Reading is one of the most important skills your child will ever learn. Strong reading skills support learning in every subject and help children develop vocabulary, communication skills, imagination and confidence. Children who enjoy reading are more likely to achieve well at school and become lifelong learners.

"Learning to read is the most important thing children will learn at primary school."

Department for Education Reading Framework

Learning to read is a journey.

-Children begin by learning letter sounds through phonics.

-They then learn to blend these sounds together to read words.

-As their knowledge grows, they become more accurate and fluent readers.

-Once reading becomes automatic, children can focus their attention on understanding and enjoying what they are reading.

Phonics at Langwith Bassett

We follow the ACET Phonics and Early Reading Programme, a validated systematic synthetic phonics programme developed in collaboration with an English Hub. Children take part in daily phonics sessions where they revisit previous learning, learn new sounds, practise their skills and apply them to reading and writing. This structured approach helps children develop confidence and success in early reading.

We assess phonics knowledge, word recognition, fluency, accuracy and comprehension. These assessments help us identify strengths, address any gaps in learning and ensure children are matched to the most appropriate reading book for their stage of development.

Books

Reading books are carefully matched to each child's secure phonics knowledge and reading ability. A book that is too difficult can make reading frustrating, while a book that is appropriately matched helps children develop confidence, fluency and success.

It is completely normal for children to keep the same reading book for more than one week. This may happen because we are focusing on developing fluency, confidence, word recognition, expression or comprehension.

We cannot give children a reading book until they can recognise all 2a sounds.

Reading at Home

Children will usually bring home one reading book each week. We encourage families to read little and often, aiming for 5-10 minutes each day (2-3 pages).

Re-reading a book several times helps children build confidence, improve fluency and deepen their understanding of the text. Short, regular reading sessions have a much greater impact than occasional longer sessions.

Reading at Home

Reading should be enjoyable. Alongside their school reading book, children benefit from listening to stories, sharing picture books, visiting the library, reading magazines and exploring non-fiction texts.

The more positive experiences children have with books, the more likely they are to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Working Together

By working together, we can give every child the best possible start to their reading journey. The support children receive both at school and at home plays a vital role in helping them become confident, fluent and enthusiastic readers.