

Reading

Something we want to do?

Something we have to do?

Reading... why does it matter?

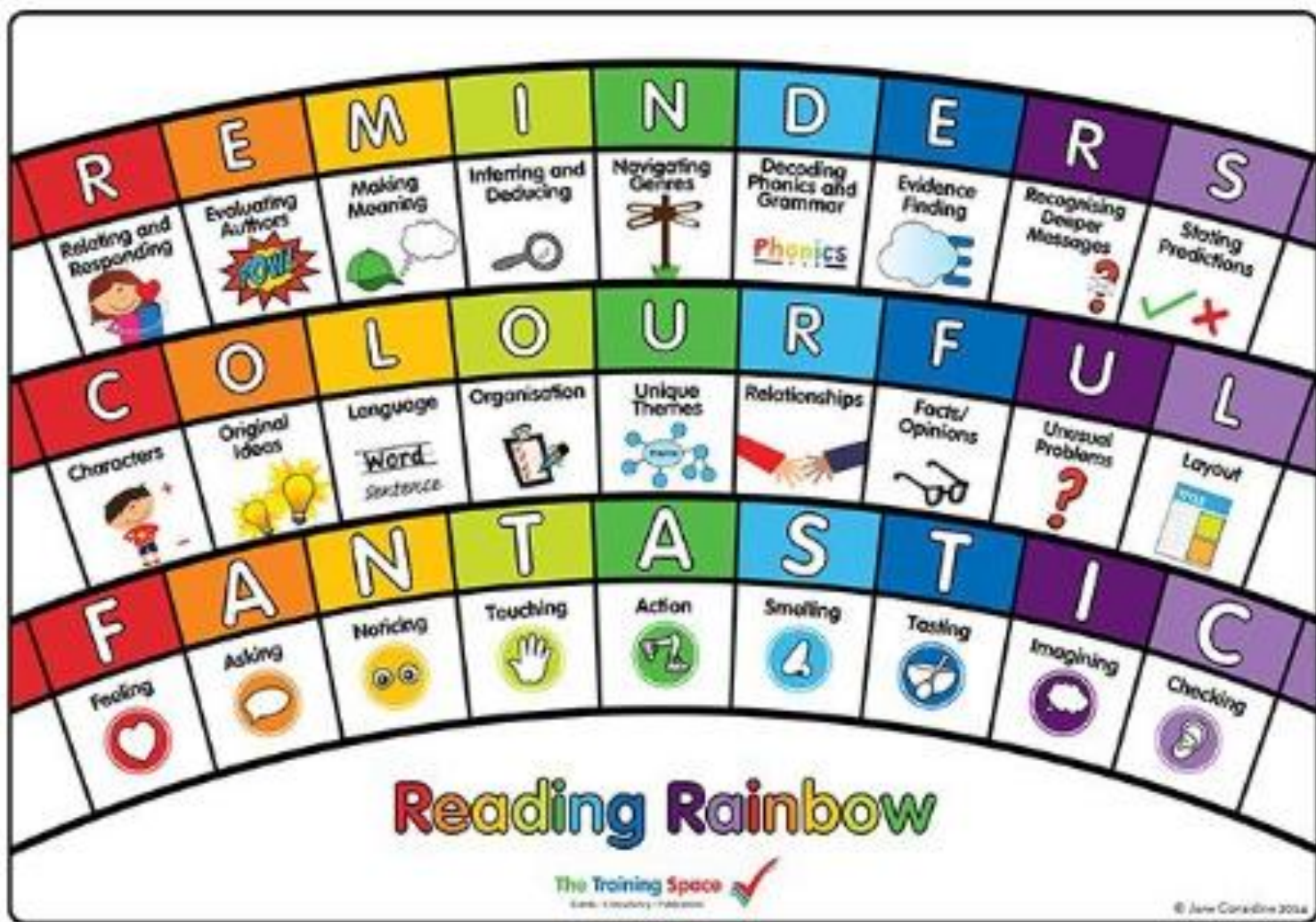
- 44% of 1,000 parents of 6- to 11-year-olds polled said they rarely or never read with their child after their seventh birthday.
- National Literacy Trust ... suggested that young people who read outside class were 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age.
- A study from London's Institute of Education states that children who read for pleasure are likely to be better at both Maths and English than those who rarely read in their free time.

Reading... why does it matter?

- We are committed to developing confident, capable pupils, not only academically, but socially and reading allows them these opportunities.
- Within school we are focused on providing the best reading environment for all pupils and engage and encourage not only reading ability, but also a love of reading.

What are we doing for your child?

- Continued, focused teaching of phonics in EYFS & KSI
- Continued promotion and development of the Library
- Reading Journals
- Homework focus
- Book Talk
- Buddy Reading
- Comprehension Scheme to support application of skills
- English Enrichment activities



What you can do for your child...

- Read each night with your child, no matter their age!
- Research shows just 10 minutes reading with your child each night makes a significant difference to their overall achievement within all aspects of school.
- Talk about reading.
- Read everywhere you go.
- Share with them things you like to read.

Reading with an older child...

When children get older and learn to read for themselves, it can be tempting for parents to step back and let them continue their reading adventures alone. However, research shows the enjoyment of reading, developed through shared reading time with parents or carers, has a significant positive impact on a wide range of life outcomes, including social, personal, health and well-being, and educational.

Diana Gerald, chief executive Book Trust

How to read with your child

- **Set aside some time**

Find somewhere quiet without any distractions – turn off the TV/radio/computer.

- **Ask your child to choose a book**

Sharing books they have chosen shows you care what they think and that their opinion matters. This means they are more likely to engage with the book.

- **Sit close together**

Encourage your child to hold the book themselves and/or turn the pages.

- **Point to the pictures**

If there are illustrations, relate them to something your child knows. Ask them to describe the characters or situation or what will happen next. Encourage them to tell you the story by looking at the pictures.

- **Encourage your child to talk about the book**

Talking about the characters and their dilemmas helps children understand relationships and is an excellent way for you to get to know each other or discuss difficult issues. Give your child plenty of time to respond. Ask them what will happen next, how a character might be feeling, or how the book makes them feel.

- **And lastly, above all – make it fun!**

It doesn't matter how you read with a child, as long as you both enjoy the time together. Don't be afraid to use funny voices: children love this!

Encouraging older children to read

- **Ensure that your children see you reading.** It doesn't matter if it's the newspaper, a cookery book, romantic novel, detective mystery, short stories, computer manual, magazine - anything!
- **Encourage children to join in** - ask a child to read out a recipe for you as you cook, or the TV listings when you are watching TV
- **Give books or book tokens as presents**, and encourage others to do so
- **Visit the local library together** on a regular basis, and enjoy spending time choosing new books
- **Encourage children to carry a book at all times** so they can read on journeys or in spare moments — you can do this, too!
- **Keep reading together.** There are lots of books that both adults and young people can enjoy. Try *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon, the *Harry Potter* series, or *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel. Read books you can all talk about but make the talk light-hearted, not testing or over-questioning
- **Go to libraries or bookshops when authors are visiting.** Children and teenagers love meeting their favourite writers - Jacqueline Wilson and Anthony Horowitz always have signing queues that are miles long!
- **Make sure your home is a reading home** - have a family bookshelf and make sure there are shelves in your children's bedrooms as well.
- **Don't panic if your child reads the same book over** and over again - be honest, we've probably all done it!
- **Encourage your children and their friends to swap books** with each other. This will encourage them to talk and think about the books they are reading

Homework Policy

- We require our pupils to read a minimum of three times a week as their English homework.
- Reading at home supports not only the development of their reading skills, but also their writing and by extension the rest of the curriculum.
- Reading with your child develops a love of reading that support them throughout their entire school career.
- If a child doesn't complete three reads a week they are required to complete it on a Friday afternoon during Challenge Time.