



Haydon Abbey School and Pre-School

Reading Pledge



At Haydon Abbey we know how important it is for children to read every day. Reading for just 10 minutes a day will expose children to 700,000 words each year and research has shown that children who read are happier.

We promise to dedicate 10 minutes each day to read with the children. In return, we would like you, at home, to also dedicate 10 minutes to read with your child each day.

We hope that you are able to dedicate this time to read with your child as it is reading is such an important skill.



**"You're never
too old, too wacky, too wild,
to pick up a book and
read to a child."
-Dr. Seuss**

How can you help your child read at home?

Dr Seuss is a wise man! Reading with your child at home is invaluable. Below are some tips on how you can make this a pleasurable experience for you both!

- Choose a *quiet time* away from the distraction of technology, for example at bed time.
- Sit with your child to show that you *value* this time together and to stress its importance.
- If your child is a reluctant reader, think of another way to *engage* them.
- Children need to experience a *variety* of reading materials e.g. picture books, comics, magazines, poems, information books, recipe books etc.
- If it is a long book, don't worry about finishing it in one night.
- Read *alternate* pages with your child so that they can see that you are enjoying the book too.
- As well as reading the words, use the pictures in the book to *re-tell* the story.
- *Question, question, question!* *Comprehension* is a huge part of learning to read. Get your child to *predict* what might happen next or come up with an *alternative ending* together. Discuss your child's *favourite part or character*. Can they think of another story that has these characters in or has any similarities?
- Reading to an audience is an invaluable skill. Is your child noticing that exclamation mark that means that the character is shouting or adding *expression*?
- *Be a model reader!* Let your child see you reading for pleasure. Fill your house with books. Visit the local library. Your aim is to ensure that your child sees reading as a pleasurable experience and not just a chore that is forced upon them for school.

As Dr Seuss says *"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go!"*

We all thank you for your continued support and if you need any help then please don't hesitate to ask!