

Read Aloud (and make it exciting!)

Reading aloud fosters a **love of books** in children, and helps children get **hooked** on books as they associate reading with *pleasure*.

At St Benedict's our children get the opportunity to take reading books home at least once a week. These books are perfect for reading with your child/ children.

Create a Space for Reading

It is important to establish a **comfortable** and *quiet* space for reading as well as set aside time for leisure reading.

Let Children Choose Books

The freedom to **select books** leads to a **positive attitude** towards reading, **better engagement** with the book, and a **more enjoyable** reading experience.

Children should be allowed to read whatever materials they find interesting. Your child might love **comics**, *magazines* or *poetry*. Maybe *information books* too! Doing otherwise may reduce their potential to **engage** in recreational reading

At St Benedict's, the children's home reading books have been chosen by themselves because that's what they want to read. These may be above your child's reading ability but they are perfect for reading with your child/ children.

Opportunities to develop your child's love of reading at home



Ensure Access to Books

Children who have access to *engaging texts* do more reading.

At St Benedict's every child has access to **Bug Club online**. Here they can access around **500** eBooks. Your child's teacher allocates appropriately levelled books for your child to read independently at home.

You could also get a free **Birmingham Library Membership**. You can use your Library card at any Library within Birmingham Library Service to borrow books for your children to read.

Talk About Books

Having **discussions** about books is another way to **spark** children's interest in reading and in books. Children who may not be interested in reading will have **subjects** and **topics** that they are **excited** about, such as sports, movies or animals. Discussing books on a topic or subject that the child finds exciting will likely improve interest in reading.

When children find reading *fun* and *enjoyable*, they are likely to repeatedly spend time with books, become engaged readers, and gain the benefits of leisure reading.

Develop Family Reading Routines and Rituals

Find a **regular** time of day when you can **dedicate** story time into your day. You can read in the morning, after school, or before bedtime! Making story time a *cosy* routine makes reading an **essential** and *pleasant* activity.