



## THORNHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Reading Intent Statement

At Thornhill Primary School, we believe that all pupils should leave us as confident, fluent readers. We recognise that reading is a key to unlocking the rest of the academic curriculum. Being an able reader significantly improves a child's future academic achievement, wellbeing and success in life.

Healthy	Curious	Resilient	Ambitious	Independent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•physical health</li><li>•emotional well-being</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•enthusiastic learners</li><li>•ask questions</li><li>•investigate</li><li>•find patterns</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•ready to explore</li><li>•willing to have a go</li><li>•confident</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•ready for their next stage</li><li>•high aspirations</li><li>•knowing their full potential</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•articulate</li><li>•resourceful</li><li>•problem solvers</li></ul>

We follow a validated synthetic phonics programme so that our children are equipped with the skills to decode any unfamiliar words. Phonics is inclusive to all children, who require help with their early reading skills, regardless of their age. Reading practice for children following the phonics scheme takes place three times a week and includes decoding, prosody and comprehension.

We aim to foster our children's life-long love of reading by promoting reading for pleasure. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum. Throughout school, reading is promoted and encouraged through displays, conversations, assemblies and recommendations.

We understand that children need to see themselves in the books they read. They also need to see beyond what they know, sharing cultural experiences. We continually renew our book shelves with quality rich texts to give our children access to interesting and meaningful reading material. Teachers read to children daily and read fiction, non-fiction and poetry every week. Sharing and discussing our reading offers opportunities to broaden children's experiences beyond the immediate and the local, for example, books about space, other countries, animals, exploration, and courageous people from a range of occupations and ethnic backgrounds.

Reading is major tool to develop children's vocabulary, which will enable them to effectively express themselves in spoken and written form. Children are given regular reading for pleasure sessions to read texts of their choice. They regularly share and discuss their texts with others. Book-related talk introduces children to language that they might not hear in ordinary conversation, especially the vocabulary of the book itself. It also promotes enthusiasm and the love of reading.