



Reading Policy

Vision: To be a community of courageous life-long learners, who are rooted in God, live out our Christian values and enjoy life in all its fullness. (Col 2:1-7)

Mission: Growing together, rooted in God and inspiring one another through our values and our broad enriched curriculum.

Strapline: Growing together, rooted in God, having fullness of life (Col 2:1-7)

Date of Policy: October 2025

Date of Policy review: October 2028

English Lead: Mrs G Healy

Date: 20th October 2025

Link Governor: Mrs G Tyler

Date: 20th October 2025

1. Vision

At Aston Rowant, reading is at the heart of our curriculum. We aim for every child to become a **fluent, joyful and lifelong reader** who sees reading as a gateway to knowledge, imagination and personal growth. Our Christian vision of **Growing Together** underpins our commitment to nurturing enthusiastic, confident readers who appreciate stories from many places, perspectives and cultures.

2. Intent

We intend that all pupils:

- Learn to read fluently and confidently
- Build deep comprehension and critical thinking skills
- Develop a rich and ambitious vocabulary
- Read widely for pleasure
- Engage with diverse, inclusive literature
- Become independent, thoughtful and reflective readers

Pupil voice demonstrates this intent in action:

- “Books can take you anywhere - even into your passions!”
- “I want to try new books now -not just the ones I always choose.”

3. Implementation

3.1 Systematic Synthetic Phonics (EYFS/KS1)

- Daily phonics lessons
- Consistent progression
- Targeted support for any child needing extra practice
- Fully decodable books matched to grapheme–phoneme knowledge

3.2 Early Reading

- Daily practise for decoding, fluency and prosody
- Home reading aligned with phonics phase
- Parents supported with clear guidance

3.3 Whole-Class Reading (KS1/KS2)

- Rich texts
- Explicit teaching of vocabulary
- Comprehension strategies (VIPERS)
- Retrieval, inference, prediction, explanation, summarising

3.4 Reading for Pleasure

A strong culture of reading is built through:

- Daily class read-aloud
- Reading corners and outdoor reading
- Reading buddies
- Book swaps (children LOVE choosing “new-to-you” books)
- Masked Reader event (a school favourite)
- World Book Day celebrations (poetry, art, geography, drama, science links)
 - “This is my favourite day of the whole year!”

3.5 Reading Across the Curriculum

Reading skills are embedded in History, Science, RE, Geography and PSHE.

4. Inclusion

We ensure all children succeed through:

- Additional phonics sessions
- Reading intervention groups
- Dyslexia-friendly resources
- Visual supports, vocabulary scaffolds
- Carefully chosen texts for EAL/SEND learners

5. Assessment

- Half-termly phonics tracking
- Ongoing fluency checks
- Reading comprehension assessments
- Y1 Phonics Screening Check
- Termly pupil-voice surveys

6. Impact

By the end of KS2, pupils:

- Read fluently and understand what they read
- Talk confidently about books
- Apply comprehension strategies independently
- Choose to read for pleasure
- Show resilience, curiosity and imagination