

Early Reading and Writing at Flagg Nursery School

At Flagg Nursery School, we aspire to have every child being ready to read and write by the time they leave us.



READING:

Phase 1 phonics:

Early reading focuses on speaking and listening, producing sounds with our mouths and bodies, becoming aware of rhyming, alliteration, environmental sounds and phonological awareness.



All of these alongside role play, small world and singing helps to develop a child's vocabulary, explore words and develop story-telling skills. Children have their photo and name on the self-registration board which enables them to start to recognise these letters. Most importantly, children are exposed to books within nursery and will be read to several times a day to encourage a love of books.

For those children ready for the next step of linking letters and sounds and orally blending and segmenting words this will be done in focused groups to extend the skills that children are ready to build upon.

WRITING:

There are two main aspects in writing-

- **Composition**- articulating ideas and structuring them in speech
- **Transcription**- writing it down



For **composition**, alongside the role play and small world areas, we also follow a pre-writing programme called 'Helicopter Stories' where children are encouraged to make up a story and then it is acted out. This enables children to know and see the power of what they say and learn to develop their imagination and story-telling skills.

For **transcription**, there are many mark making opportunities for children both inside and outside using a range of materials from water and a large paintbrush, to using their fingers in shaving foam. Children have name cards that are always available and children are always encouraged to attempt to write their name but with no pressure placed upon this until the child is ready. Alongside this we have a fine motor table that has weekly activities to develop these skills and children who need extra support in this area will be included in an ECAM (every child a mover) programme to enhance these skills. Nursery uses 'dough disco' for all children to strengthen their hand muscles to prepare them for writing, and 'squiggle whilst you wiggle' to practise large scale letter shapes.

