

CALT – ADVICE SHEETS

Reading

Ensuring every child has the necessary skills they need to read is an essential part of education. It enables children to not only learn across the curriculum but also to access numerous aspects of daily life, influencing the opportunities that they have available to them in the future. Teaching children to read is complex and encompasses a range of skills, such as word decoding, comprehension and fluency. As a parent/carer you can help your child practice these important skills and develop a sense of enjoyment in reading that will ensure they become independent.

Listening to your child read

- Let your child hold the book and turn the pages
- If they make a mistake let them get to the end of the sentence before saying anything. They may correct themselves.
- If they get stuck give them time to think (6-10 seconds) to work it out themselves
- If they still need a prompt try:
 - Check the letters-does that look right?
 - Can you use your sounds?
 - What would make sense?
 - Read the sentence again and have another go
- If you know they won't be able to work out the word, then tell them- don't let them struggle.
- Praise them and be specific. Tell them what it was that was good e.g.
 - “ I like the way you went back and re read to make sure it made sense.”
 - “I like the way you read that with expression and paused at full stops.”
- Praise the effort. If they provide a reasonable alternative tell them, as well as giving them the word on the page



Top tips

- Reading the same book several times will help your child read fluently, with pleasure and boost their self confidence
- Little and often! Better an enjoyable positive 10 minutes than 30 minutes struggling

Remember

If you are worried about your child's reading talk with their teacher.

Talking about the book

Before Reading	During Reading (Do not ask too many questions during reading – just as appropriate)	After Reading
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tell your child the title of the book, pointing to the words. <input type="checkbox"/> What can you see on the front cover? <input type="checkbox"/> What do you think this book is going to be about? <input type="checkbox"/> Who is in the story? <input type="checkbox"/> Why do you think that? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What do you think is happening here? <input type="checkbox"/> What might this mean? <input type="checkbox"/> What do you think will happen on the next page? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which was your favourite part of the book? <input type="checkbox"/> Where does the story take place? <input type="checkbox"/> Do you know another story like this one? <input type="checkbox"/> What would you have done? <input type="checkbox"/> Are there any words that tell you what the character was like? <input type="checkbox"/> How do you know he was kind/nasty, happy/sad? 