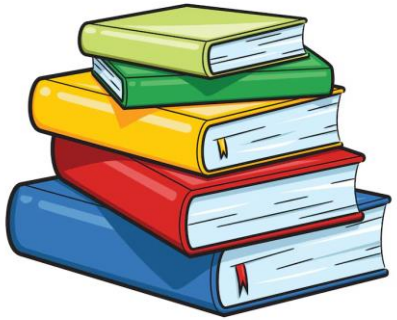
St James Academy

Reading Long Term Overview



Reading Approach

At St James Academy, whole-class reading is designed to develop fluent, thoughtful and confident readers through exposure to a broad range of high-quality texts. The core class text provides the foundation for each half term, while carefully selected linked texts broaden pupils' reading experiences and develop their understanding of different genres and authors.

Curriculum Principles

- Each half term begins with the core class text(s), allowing pupils to become familiar with the author, characters, setting, themes and vocabulary. In Key Stage 2, where appropriate, the core text is typically explored during the first part of the half term before pupils move on to shorter linked texts from the suggested genres.
- As pupils become increasingly familiar with the core text(s), teachers should introduce high-quality linked texts from the suggested genres to broaden reading experiences and expose pupils to a wider range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry.
- The Suggested Linked Genres provide curriculum coverage while allowing teachers the flexibility to select texts that best meet the needs of their class and topic.
- Reading lessons should prioritise depth over breadth. Approximately 8-10 carefully selected comprehension questions per lesson are recommended to promote discussion, reasoning and high-quality responses rather than excessive questioning.
- Vocabulary, Inference and Retrieval (VIR) should form the foundation of most comprehension lessons, as these skills underpin successful reading across the curriculum. Prediction, Explain and Summarise/Sequence should be taught regularly and revisited where appropriate, according to the demands of the text.
- By Upper Key Stage 2, pupils should increasingly encounter a range of unseen texts, enabling them to apply comprehension skills independently across a variety of genres and preparing them for both end-of-key-stage assessment and the transition to secondary school.

	Aul	Au2	Sprl	Spr2	Suml	Sum2
Year 1	Dinosaur Planet (Prehistoric)	Weather Experts (Weather and Seasons)	Bright Lights! Big City! (London, Great Fire, Gunpowder)	Where do I live? (The UK)	Memory Box (Beyond living memory)	Street Detectives (Our local area)
Core Texts	Dinosaurs in my School The Dinosaur who Lost his Roar	After the Storm Katie Who Tamed The Wind The Lonely Polar Bear	Katie in London The Royal Baby's Big Red Bus Tour of London The King's Hat	Mog the Forgetful Cat The Comet Grace and Family	Hansel and Gretel Goldilocks and the Three Bears The Three Little Pigs The Gingerbread Man	Cinderella Little Red Riding Hood Snow White The Gigantic Turnip
Suggested Linked Genres	• Information Text • Poetry	• Diary • Information Text	• Postcard • Map	• Letter • Diary	• Recipe • Information Text	• Wanted Poster • Newspaper Report
Year 2	Towers, Tunnels and Turrets (Castles)	Continents and Oceans (Our world)	Land Ahoy! (Pirates and Seafarers)	Let's go to China (A country in Asia)	Famous For More Than Five Minutes (Significant people in history)	Let's go on Safari! (Kenya)
Core Texts	Jack and the Beanstalk Rapunzel	The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch Katie Morag: The New Pier	Mungo How Pirates Really Work	The Magic Paintbrush The Runaway Wok	Toys in Space I am Neil Armstrong	We're Going on a Lion Hunt Giraffes Can't Dance
Suggested Linked Genres	• Instructions • Information Text	• Postcard • Newspaper Report	• Explanation Text • Diary	• Persuasive Text • Recipe	• Biography • Newspaper Report	▪ Travel Brochure ▪ Information Leaflet

	Aul	Au2	Sprl	Spr2	Suml	Sum2
Year 3	Tribal Tales (Stone Age, Bronze Age, Iron Age)	Misty Mountain Sierra (Mountains)	Pharaohs (Ancient Egypt)	The Journey of Food (Farm to table)	Victorians (Homes and Seaside)	Location, Location, Location (Our local area)
Core Texts	**Stone Age Boy**	**The Iron Man**	**The Egyptian Cinderella**	**The Great Foodbank Heist**	**Fantastic Mr Fox**	**Nim's Island**
Suggested Linked Genres	• Information Text • Diary	• Explanation Text • Poetry	• Information Text • Diary	• Newspaper Report • Explanation Text	• Newspaper Report • Diary	• Travel Brochure • Visitor Guide
Year 4	The Mayas (Mayan Civilisation)	Extreme Weather (Floods, droughts, tornadoes)	I am Warrior (Celts and Romans)	Earth Matters (Save our planet)	Traders and Raiders (Anglo-Saxons)	Modern Europe (France and Russia study)
Core Texts	**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**	**The Lost Whale**	**Escape from Pompeii**	**The Dancing Bear**	**Beowulf**	**Song of the River**
Suggested Linked Genres	• Information Text • Explanation	• Newspaper Report • Information Leaflet	• Historical Recount • Diary	• Persuasive Article • Information Leaflet	• Biography • Explanation Text	• Information Text • Persuasive Article

	Aul	Au2	Sprl	Spr2	Suml	Sum2
Year 5	Gods and Mortals (Ancient Greece)	The Journey of a River	Trader and Raiders (Vikings)	Amazon Rainforest	Where we live in Brownhills (Local history - coal-mining and canals)	Made in North America (California)
Core Texts	Greek Myths	Stormbreaker	Charlotte's Web	Rainforest Warrior	Street Child	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
Suggested Linked Genres	• Historical Account • Information Text	• Explanation Text • Newspaper Report	• Historical Account • Biography	• Persuasive Article • Information Text	• Biography • Local History Article	• Travel Guide • Persuasive Article
Year 6	Shang Dynasty	Frozen Kingdom	A Child's War - World War II	Tremors	America and the Slave Trade	Coastlines
Core Texts	The Explorer	A Different Boy	Letters from the Lighthouse	Holes	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	
Suggested Linked Genres	• Historical Account • Information Text • Newspaper Report • Biography	• Explanation Text • Biography • Information Text • Diary	• Historical Account • Diary • Newspaper Report • Biography	• Explanation Text • Persuasive Article • Information Text • Newspaper Report	• Biography • Historical Account • Persuasive Article • Information Text	• Information Text • Persuasive Article • Diary • Explanation Text