

# Sheringham Woodfields School



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## READING FOR PLEASURE POLICY

Approved by SMT: Autumn 2022	Approved by Staff: Autumn 2022	Approved by Governors: Autumn 2022
Next Review date: Autumn 2025	Person(s) responsible for review: Communication, Language and Literacy Lead / Head Teacher	

**"Reading for pleasure is an activity that has real emotional and social consequences. There is a growing body of evidence which illustrates the importance of reading for pleasure for both educational purposes as well as personal development."**

### - Research Evidence on Reading for Pleasure, DfE 2012

This policy is for both the pupils and staff of Sheringham Woodfields School. This policy is to outline how SWS fosters an ethos of reading for pleasure across the school.

This policy is to focus only on reading for pleasure, please see the school's Literacy policy for more in depth information about how the school deliver Literacy. Reading for enjoyment is the key to Literacy and is one of the most important factors as to how our pupils make progress across Literacy during their time with us. This policy will outline how the school is committed to encouraging a love of reading in a variety of ways in which suit the ever-changing needs of our pupils.

Sheringham Woodfields School is a complex needs school and therefore we are committed to providing equal access to reading all of our learners, making opportunities for accessing stories and other reading materials a priority. The school have invested in a variety of resources for the range of needs of our pupils. Some examples of this are:

- Story sacks
- Audio books
- E-books accessible on iPads
- Story Bags
- Hi-Low Reading books
- Indestructible books
- Various phonics resources
- Fiction / Non-fiction books
- Switches
- Texts with different sized fonts
- Eye gaze technology
- Signalong
- Symbols

As a school, we recognise that pupils may wish to access reading and stories in formats other than text, and we aim to facilitate this by investing in different equipment and resources and maintaining these so that they are accessible all of the time.

Sheringham Woodfields School understands the importance of the role of pupil's familiar adults in relation to fostering a love of reading across the school. Every single member of staff is responsible for doing this. This includes teachers, mealtime supervisors, visiting agencies, teaching assistants, care assistants and parents.

Teachers at SWS should be planning for opportunities for reading for different reasons. It is important to consider the widest definition of reading when encouraging reading for pleasure. Pupils may wish to read e-mails, texts, newspaper, magazines, storybooks, non-fiction books, story sacks, e-books, audio books and other such resources. It is important that the definition of 'reading' be considered for not just books. Pupils should have the right to choose what they want to read.

Sheringham Woodfields School consider reading for pleasure within the curriculum offered to our pupils. We often link texts and reading opportunities in our medium term plans, in order to expose the pupils to new reading materials. The school also mandate that the pupils must visit the Library at least once per week, choosing a new resource to take home to share with their families. Pupils are encouraged to self-select their resources and check it out using the school's e-librarian program. Pupils can also have access to the library during break and lunch times. The school also employ a teaching assistant to manage the school library to ensure that the resources are well taken care of, relevant and interesting to our pupils. The library holds a rich variety of books, some of which are culturally diverse and neuro-diverse, this is very important to the pupils in our school.

The school is committed to reading for pleasure, every class in the school, including those with pupils who have PMLD, and CLD, has a 'Reading Area'. This area has been designed bespoke to meet the needs and interests of the pupils in the class. They may not look like a traditional 'Mainstream' reading area, but instead an area that is accessible to the pupils in the class, with resources that are suitable for the many complicated needs they are working with. These reading areas will link to the topic the class are focussing on, and will be changed every half term, considering the needs and interests of our pupils.

Sheringham Woodfields School encourage links with pupils' families to further foster a love of reading. Some of the ways we do this are by: sending stories / story sacks home for pupils to enjoy. We have regular contact with parents via the pupil's home school diaries. We send reading scheme books home with a reading record diary for staff to be able to communicate with parents about the books the pupils are reading.

The school maintains a commitment to review this Reading for Pleasure Policy regularly to ensure that we are up to date with current subject knowledge and pedagogy. This will mean that the pupils at Sheringham Woodfields School are constantly being offered a provision that holds Reading for Pleasure at its core.