



Home Reading

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” — Dr. Seuss

Encouraging children to read widely, in and out of school, across both fiction and non-fiction, helps to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live, to establish an appreciation and love of reading, and to gain knowledge across the curriculum. Reading widely and often increases pupils' vocabulary because they encounter words they would rarely hear or use in everyday speech.

Purpose:

1. To develop and promote supportive links between the home and school to advance literacy skills.
2. To recognise the value of parents/careers as essential components in supporting and developing children's reading skills.
3. Students practise reading to develop confidence in their reading abilities
4. Embed a love of reading and foster a genuine desire to read for pleasure and learning.

Aims:

At Berkeley Vale we want our **students** to:

- Read confidently and fluently and seek to acquire knowledge independently.
- Develop a lifelong enjoyment of reading, taking genuine pleasure from what they read.
- Choose to read widely and often for both pleasure and information.
- Develop the reading skills they need to access all areas of the curriculum.
- Understand the meaning of what they read and what is read to them.
- Read critically to ascertain what the truth is in a statement so that they may gain a balanced understanding of local, national and international issues.
- Engage in discussion in order to learn, deepen their thinking and form opinions.
- Become immersed in other worlds...both real and imagined!
- Have access to a variety of literature which challenges and engages.

Guidelines:

The experience of reading at home will vary according to stages of reading development.

Read to - parent reads to child

Read with - parent reads a line/page and then child copies, reducing the pressure of the 'tricky bits'.

Listen to - book is read by your child while parent listens, allowing children to practise being independent readers.

Independent – child may read aloud or read silently. Parent may choose to ask questions or discuss what has been read.

Reading the same home reader for a number of days is encouraged. It is important that children reread texts to develop natural rhythm, fluency and a clear reading voice.

In situations where books are longer, such as chapter books, students only need to return the book once it has been read.

Resources:

- A variety of books provided by the school
- Online reading programs
- A book from home
- A school library book
- A book from a local library
- Magazines, comics, newspapers and other reading materials

Organisation:

- We ask each child to read a book, magazine or any other reading material at home each day.
- Each class has a selection of books for home reading.
- Teachers will establish an in-class borrowing system for the Home Reading Program.
- Students take their reading book home together with their reading record log.
- Parents are requested to listen to their child read, read with their child or have their child read silently for ten to twenty minutes each day of the school week.
- Keep a record of reading by writing the date and title of reading materials in the Home Reading Log.
- Parents should then sign their child's Home Reading Card - **only once per day**.
- Children may also choose to read on the weekend and during holidays to practice reading and work towards incentives.

Incentives:

The organisation of Home Reading has sequential steps of achievement which allow all students to reach set goals. Those students who read consistently each school night during the school term, as well on weekends and during the holidays, will be rewarded as they achieve the levels outlined below.

| 50 nights | 100 nights | 150 nights | 200 nights | 250 nights |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Certificate | Certificate | Certificate | Certificate | Certificate |
| Sticker | Bookmark | Wristband | Badge + Privilege | Book |

For you to support your child to learn to read:

- Enjoy reading with your child.
- Be supportive and positive.
- Share a wide range of books and other reading material with your child.
- Ask questions so that your child knows that reading is about making meaning.
- Know that mistakes are good – it means your child is learning.
- Try and put time aside for reading with your child daily.
- Find reading material that you know will interest your child.
- Encourage your child to read anywhere and at any time.
- Enjoy reading – it should be fun.

Berkeley Vale Public School



Home Reading

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our home reading program is aimed at developing and promoting supportive links between home and school to advance reading skills and encouraging a love and enthusiasm for reading. It should be an enjoyable activity where students practise fluency, build confidence, learn about the world around them and develop their imagination.

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Regards
Lisa Ritherdon
Principal

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