



## Supporting Pupils' Literacy at Home



At St Richard Reynolds Catholic College we want to promote a love of reading in our pupils and implement practices that will support their key literacy skills. Parental support plays a vital role in supporting this work and you can help your child develop these skills by using some of the suggestions listed below.

### Reading Texts

- Talk about books at home - you could use the school Reading List for suggested material
- Encourage your child to set aside time for reading and complete their 'Reading Record' with them.
- Visit the local library or a good bookshop together and ask for recommendations. If your child is a reluctant reader the assistants may be able to recommend a text that appeals to your child's reading taste
- Be open to your child reading a range of books including: short stories, audio books, fiction, non-fiction, or a suitable magazine
- Encourage your child to develop good independent study skills by guiding them to complete wider reading activities around the topics they are studying
- Encourage your child to try a range of texts
- Allocate specific time at the weekend for reading to help your child to form good reading habits
- You could buy books or comics as treats

### Reading for Meaning/Understanding and Inference

- Encourage your child to discuss what they are reading and the main messages of the book. This will enable you to check their understanding.
- Try to ensure that where possible your child has access to a dictionary and thesaurus when they are reading or completing homework
- Encourage your child to look up new words they come across as this will help them to expand their vocabulary and understanding
- You could check that your child is updating the glossary page at the back of their English book
- You could direct your child to interesting newspaper items that you can then discuss to check their understanding

## Writing: Punctuation, Grammar and Key Skills

- You can use the exercises at the back of the diary (in the blue section) to support your child with their literacy skills - word classes, punctuation, connectives, abbreviations and personal spellings.
- Look through the targets set by the teachers and discuss these with your child. These can be used to inform the activities that you do at home to support.
- If your child needs additional support with key skills, there are support booklets available in school. There are four booklets which aim to develop pupils' key skills in: spelling, punctuation, handwriting and grammar. You could support your child's learning by working through the activities with them or testing them when a section is complete.
- Liaise with your child's form tutor or subject teacher if you have any concerns regarding the literacy skills of your child.