



## St Godric's RC VA Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs C Craig

*We love, value and respect each other.*

Dear Parents,

21 September 2020

During these unprecedented times of COVID 19, we have taken the time to evaluate the resources and systems that we currently have in place for reading within our school, St. Godric's. With this in mind, we are very excited about launching our new reading system.

We have been able to make an investment of over £6000 for reading provision in our school. From September, we are moving from the older numbered stages, to the National Book Bands, with children up to Year 6 accessing books from the reading scheme.

We strive for our children to be the best that they can be and through these changes we aim to make reading a fun, enjoyable habit. In some cases, we may be asking you to approach reading differently at home. We ask you to read with your child for a minimum of 15-20 mins per day in Reception and KS1. In KS2, children can read independently but ask that you monitor their reading by asking questions or by asking them to retell what has been read. In all cases, you should record what has been read in the Reading Record provided. Reading Records will be monitored and can be used as a form of communication between school and home.

Our reasons for these changes are as follows:

- Due to the raised expectations of the new National Curriculum 2014, we have reviewed the way that we support children with their reading. Whilst fluency and reading are extremely important, there is a greater emphasis on comprehension skills. It is these skills which we feel we also need to address. This will be done through your child's reading book and through direct teaching of these skills in class.
- We wanted to ensure that there is greater progression in the reading scheme and feel that the Book Bands are the best way of doing this. We aim to offer breadth and range in each of the colours.
- We also wanted to ensure that there was greater continuity throughout the school, allowing children to move more seamlessly from KS1 to KS2. This scheme allows children's progress to be tracked more closely.

In September, we will assess the most appropriate colour for your child to start reading on. This will be monitored closely to ensure that children are reading texts that match their fluency and comprehension skills. This will be monitored weekly and half-termly to ensure that adjustments are made where needed.





Please find below, an overview of the Book Bands and what they mean. We hope that it gives you a clear understanding of the changes that we have implemented. However, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's class teacher. If you cannot speak to them in person, you may find that the class e-mail is a useful way of getting in touch. We hope that you are able to recognise the benefits of our new systems during reading sessions at home. Further communications will be made on the newsletter and on our website.

Please refer to the table listed below to view the coloured book bands in relation to your young reader.

### Book Bands

Colour	Year Group (linked to ARE)	Sticker
Lilac Band 0	Start of Reception	
Pink Band 1	Reception	
Red Band 2	Reception	
Yellow Band 3	Reception	
Blue Band 4	Year 1	
Green Band 5	Year 1	
Orange Band 6	Year 1	
Turquoise Band 7	Year 2	
Purple Band 8	Year 2	
Gold Band 9	Year 2	
White Band 10	Year 2	
Lime Band 11	Year 2/Year 3	
Brown Band 12	Year 3	
Grey Band 13	Year 4	
Dark Blue Band 14	Year 5	
Dark Red Band 15	Year 6	

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Curry

Year 2 Class Teacher/Reading Leader

