

Tips for supporting reading at home

Regular reading of material that is suitable for your child's level is key for developing reading fluency and building vocabulary knowledge. There are different ways in which you can encourage reading and engaging with texts. Some of the recommendations below may suit your family better than others so you can choose accordingly.



- **Switch on the subtitles** on screens and TV. Recent research shows this can have a significant impact on a student's reading ability.
- Ask your child to **read texts aloud in a practical context** – reading a recipe when you are cooking or reading instructions when you are assembling furniture.
- **Talk about the world** outside your family's immediate experience – having a sound knowledge of the world helps students to make more sense of challenging texts.
- **Build their resilience** by sharing your own struggles to learn something. Focus on the importance of staying motivated and positive.
- **Read aloud** to your child or take turns reading aloud to each other. If your child struggles to pronounce a word correctly, model it to them and then get them to repeat it.
- **Family Reading Time:** making time to read alongside one another helps develop children's reading stamina and interest. Let them choose what to read and relax together.
- **Book Chats** encourage readers. Invite them to make connections and share their views. Can they talk about key events in the story and how one event lead to another? What do they think might happen next? Join in with your thoughts too.
- **Limit screen time** and support your child in developing a reading habit. If they don't have any screens in their room before bedtime, they might pick up a book.
- If your child is resistant to reading, try them with a **graphic novel**. There are many choices of graphic novel for this age group and, as well as engaging plots, graphic novels often have sophisticated vocabulary.
- If you are not sure about which books to pick, use the **BookTrust website**. They have a Bookfinder section where you can select books to suit your child's interests and reading age.
- You can **browse the school library's catalogue** at home via this website [News - Ravens Wood School - Oliver](#) (your child will need to login with their school email account) and find books your child might enjoy. Encourage them to **visit the school library** and borrow books to read at home.