



## **Meath Green Infant School**

### **Subject Intent Statement for Reading**

#### **Why is Reading so Important?**

At Meath Green Infant School, we value reading as a key life skill and one that lays the foundations for lifelong learning. Reading is promoted as an enjoyable and enriching experience for both children and parents/carers, and we hope to instil a love of reading in every child who attends our school. We aim to do this by immersing children in stories, poems, rhymes and non-fiction texts from the moment they enter school. This rich and varied diet of carefully planned texts develops children's vocabulary, language comprehension and love of reading.

The systematic teaching of phonics has high priority throughout school. The phonics scheme used at Meath Green Infant School is Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS). This matches the expectations of the English National Curriculum and Early Years Development Matters. It is a systematic programme that is taught with fidelity, consistency and continuity from Reception to Year 2.

#### **How do we Teach Reading?**

Phonics sessions are taught daily. Once children have completed the ELS programme, they move onto English based lessons where the teaching of discrete reading skills is prioritised. Ongoing assessment means that groups can be adjusted to ensure the best possible progress for each child. Each child reads books that best match their phonic knowledge.

Children are given opportunities to read in school regularly. This takes place within lessons, both indoors and outdoors, and throughout the day. Reading for pleasure has high priority and all classrooms contain a reading area and a wide range of reading books. Storytelling is a priority, and children are read to each day by their class teacher. This can be a book that the teacher has chosen or a recommendation from a child. Classes also vote for books to be read to them.

#### **What do we Hope to Achieve?**

Academically, the impact of our curriculum is strong. Children make good progress from their entry point in Early Years to the end of Year 2. Children develop a love of stories and authors through being immersed in carefully selected books, rich with imagination and interesting

vocabulary. All children are familiar with, and enjoy listening to, a wide range of stories, poems, rhymes, and non-fiction. Reading for pleasure is an essential component of our reading curriculum.