

Read – Achieve – Succeed

**Alvaston Junior Academy in
Partnership with Parents**



Year 5



What Children Need to be Excellent Readers

Children need:

- to have good phonics skills
- to be able to read fluently (125 words/minute by year 6)
- to develop their reading stamina
- to have a good understanding of vocabulary
- to comprehend what they read (e.g. by answering questions)
- to read non-fiction effectively

Benefits of Reading

1. Children who read often and widely, get better at it.

After all, practice makes perfect in almost everything humans do, and reading is no different.

2. Reading exercises our brain.

Reading is a much more complex task for the human brain rather than watching TV, for example. Reading strengthens brains connections and builds NEW connections.

Asking questions about the book also stretches their brain – what might happen next, who is your favourite character and why, what is the dilemma in the story?

3. Reading improves concentration.

Children have to sit still and quietly so that they can focus on the story when they are reading. If they read often, they will develop the skill to do this for longer.

4. Reading teaches children about the world around them.

Through reading a variety of books children learn about people, places, and events outside their own experiences.

5. Reading improves vocabulary and language skills.

Children learn new words as they read. Subconsciously, they absorb information on how to structure sentences and how to use words and other language features effectively in their writing and speaking.

6. Reading develops a child's imagination.

As we read, our brains translate the descriptions we read of people, places and things into pictures. While we are engaged in a story, we are also imagining how a character is feeling. Young children then bring this knowledge into their everyday play, and older children into their story writing.

7. Reading helps children to develop empathy.

As children develop, they begin to imagine how they would feel in that situation.

8. Reading is fun.

Choose a book you enjoy reading!

Share the reading and use funny voices for characters.

A book or an e-reader doesn't take up much space and is light to carry, so you take it anywhere so you can never be bored if you have a book in your bag.

9. Reading is a great way to spend time together.

Turn off electronics and make reading time a special time - set a daily reading routine.

Reading together on the sofa, bedtimes stories and visiting the library are just some ways of spending time together.

10. Children who read, achieve better in school.

Reading promotes achievement in all subjects, not just English. Children who are good readers tend to achieve better across the curriculum

Why Reading is Important for all Children

- Reading has the power to shape and develop minds, inside and outside of the classroom
- It is the most important subject in school – because everything else depends on it
- Excellence in almost any academic subject depends on strong reading skills

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- We want our children to be able to read with **thoroughness**, **independence**, **accuracy** and **insight**



Popular Authors

- Anne Fine
- Sir Michael Morpurgo
- Phillip Pullman
- J.K. Rowling
- C.S. Lewis
- Julia Donaldson
- Jacqueline Wilson
- Terry Pratchett
- Jeff Kinney
- Eva Ibbotson
- Frank Cottrell Boyce
- Anthony Browne
- Dr Seuss
- Malorie Blackman
- JRR Tolkein
- David Almond
- David Walliams
- Roald Dahl