



## **Reading for Pleasure Policy Statement**

At Millfields we believe that children deserve a rich curriculum which encourages extensive reading of whole books and other kinds of texts. We believe that active encouragement of reading for pleasure is a core part of every child's educational entitlement, whatever their background or attainment because we know that extensive reading and exposure to a wide range of texts make a huge contribution to students' educational achievement;

At Millfields we aim to promote the concepts of reading for 'fun', 'enjoyment' and 'pleasure' and we ensure that we include a range of 'real books' within the Curriculum for English as well as the opportunity for sustained reading from a range of other self-chosen fiction and non-fiction texts from our school library/resource room.

Millfields tries to engage and support parents in enabling access to a range of texts by offering after school sessions in our school library.

Where we believe that children have little access to good quality books the school tries to provide compensatory measures which allow equality of access to all children e.g. sending extra books home, reading with a reading volunteer, attending lunch time library club or reading groups.

We believe that the staff and adults who work at Millfields should be 'reading role models' and we try to ensure that adults share their favourite texts with the children. We use our website and the Millfields Mag to promote and share good texts that we enjoy.

We try to ensure that there is an opportunity for professional development for teachers to explore the huge range of printed and electronic reading materials to enable them to support children in their reading choices. We have access to The Tower Hamlets Resource Library that has a wide range of texts to borrow.

Our Early Years team ensures that parent volunteers read to small groups or whole classes on a regular basis and that many classes are able to make links with the local library.

We commit to the 'Booklinks' project annually as this enables children and teachers to work creatively with a range of texts and to be in touch with the authors.

We start our academic year sharing our favourite books and use our book corners to promote our favourite texts as well as encourage children to continue reading other materials by authors they have studied in literacy.

Where there are links with authors in our community we ensure that we foster them and create opportunities for children to 'talk' with authors & illustrators about their jobs.

The PSA are involved in fund raising for both the library and other book resources throughout the year and we have recently been successful on a bid to improve the resources and staffing of our school library.

We ensure that reading remains on the School Council agenda annually and we conduct a pupil voice questionnaire annually to ensure that children can support us to develop the reading provision at Millfields.

In the summer term we partner Y6 and Y1 children for Daily supported reading. This is particularly successful and ensures that the younger children see good role models closer to their own age. There are also further opportunities to create 'buddy readers' across other year groups where teachers are willing.