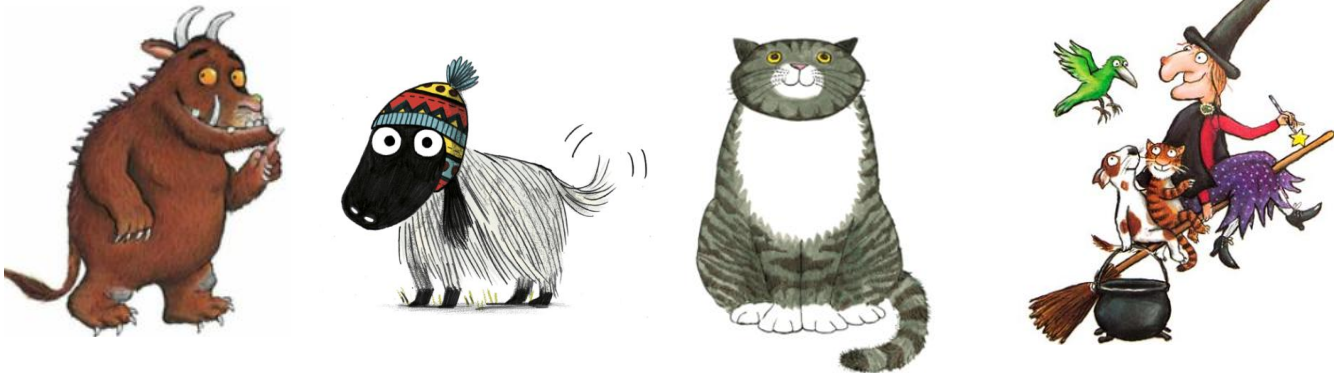


Sharing Books and Nurturing a Love of Reading

Information for Parents of Children Joining Reception

2026



From the moment children start school, reading becomes one of the most powerful tools they have for learning. At Godinton Primary School, we believe that a love of books lays the foundation for confidence, curiosity, and lifelong learning. Your involvement at home plays a vital role in helping your child develop these essential early skills. This leaflet explains why sharing books matters and offers practical ways you can support your child's reading journey.

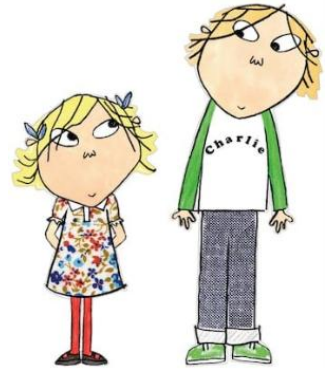
We encourage children to read or share books with an adult at home every day once they start school. Beginning that journey now, significantly helps with many aspects of a child's development.



Why Sharing Books Matters

1. Building Language and Communication Skills

Reading aloud exposes children to a rich range of vocabulary, sentence structures, and ideas. These early experiences help children develop strong listening skills, express themselves clearly, and make meaningful connections with the world.



2. Strengthening Emotional Bonds

Sharing a book creates calm, special moments between you and your child. These shared experiences build trust, security and positive associations with reading. It helps support listening and attention skills.

3. Sparking Imagination and Curiosity

Stories take children beyond their immediate experiences. Books help children explore new ideas, develop creativity, and build empathy.

4. Supporting Early Literacy Skills

Sharing books helps children recognise patterns in language, understand that print carries meaning, and develop early reading behaviours that prepare them for school.



How You Can Support Reading at Home



The most important way in which parents can support reading is by fostering a love of books and stories in their children. Children will develop the mechanics of reading and phonics when they start with us but we would love them to arrive at Godinton with a thirst for books – both fiction and non-fiction.

- Share books together every day
- Reduce tech time on iPads and spend time with real books
- Let your child choose books
- Talk about the story and pictures
- Visit the library
- Model a love of reading – let children see you reading
- Keep reading enjoyable and relaxed
- Get grandparents and older siblings involved in sharing books together

Together, We Build Readers

Thank you for supporting your child as they begin their reading journey. Your encouragement and shared reading time will help them flourish throughout their time at Godinton Primary

School.

