Why is reading important at Cedar Park?

At Cedar Park, reading is given the highest priority; it is vital in order for children to become independent learners and achieve in all areas of the curriculum. We want children to become motivated readers, who know the importance of reading as a lifelong skill in the wider world and also appreciate the written word as an art form.

Engaging with books allows us to be transported to other places and worlds. Children can become immersed in the lives of fictional characters or learn more about the world around them.

It is commonly said that a child's future academic success and career prospects are directly related to their reading proficiency.

What can I do at home to support my child?

It is important for both school and parents to actively teach children to read. We need you to create a home environment where reading is encouraged and seen as a pleasurable experience.

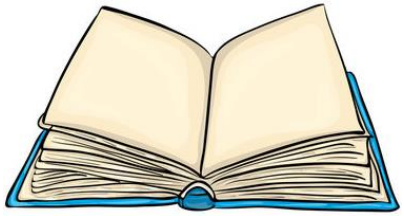
Ensure your child reads and hears you read to them at least three times a week (more if possible). This is just as important for older children as it is for younger children.

Spending just 10-15 minutes reading with your child every day will be invaluable in developing their ability to become a fluent and avid reader.

Cedar Park School

Be kind ★ Be inspired ★ Believe

Reading is the key to success



What can I ask my child about their book?

It is crucial that you ask your child questions before, during and after reading time. Comprehension questions encourage children to read for meaning.

Questioning your child will help them to remember what they have read and make sense of it, rather than simple decoding words.

You can find question prompts in our reading progression map that is in the reading section of the school website. If you have any questions about supporting your child with their reading, please speak to your child's class teacher.

What can I do if my child is a reluctant reader?

We believe little and often is the best approach to reading. Find a quiet and comfortable space and give your child your full attention.

Take it in turns to read each page and don't be afraid of silly voices!

Allow your child to revisit a favourite book – there is nothing wrong with reading a book many times and it creates a sense of security and helps build fluency.

Finally, be a good role model. Allow your child to see you enjoying reading and praise, praise, praise!

"The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." **Dr Seuss**

What can I read with my child?

Your child will bring home a reading books which are appropriate to their stage of development. They may also bring home a 'free choice' book from the library. You could read this to your child.

You may have books at home that your child would enjoy but couldn't access independently. Why not read them to your child!

Find something your child enjoys and go with it!