



Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to share some information about the **Big Cat Phonics for Letters and Sounds** reading scheme we use at Alverton School.

We teach children to read fully decodable books fluently and with good comprehension. This means that they can read appropriate books completely independently and understand what they have read because the books contain sounds that they have already learned. Under this system **staff** choose books for the children to bring home (for those reading Turquoise books or below) and they will keep the same book from Monday to Thursday (OFSTED guidance states that pupils must be given sufficient practice, at school and at home, in **reading and re-reading** books that match the sounds that they have been taught). This allows for plenty of reading practice using a familiar book, as well as giving you the opportunity to work through the comprehension activities (included in the back of each book) to ensure that your child understands what they have read.

On Fridays children will be able to make their own choice of book to bring home for the weekend, in order to develop their love of reading. (This book may not always be fully decodable, meaning that they may need some help from you to read and understand it).

It is vital that children read at home **every day** in order to ensure the highest possible chances of success and we will be monitoring this and providing any support where needed.

For more information about the Big Cat Phonics scheme please visit: <https://collins.co.uk/pages/phonics-for-letters-and-sounds>

Thanks for your support,
The Key Stage 1 team.