

READING

Reading at Crosshall Junior School

How reading works at our school, and
how families can help at home

Parent information

October 2026



Our goal: readers who can, and readers who want to

A strong reading culture supports both access to learning and enjoyment.

Fluency

Accurate, increasingly automatic reading that frees attention for meaning.

Understanding

Vocabulary, inference, retrieval, summarising and thoughtful discussion.

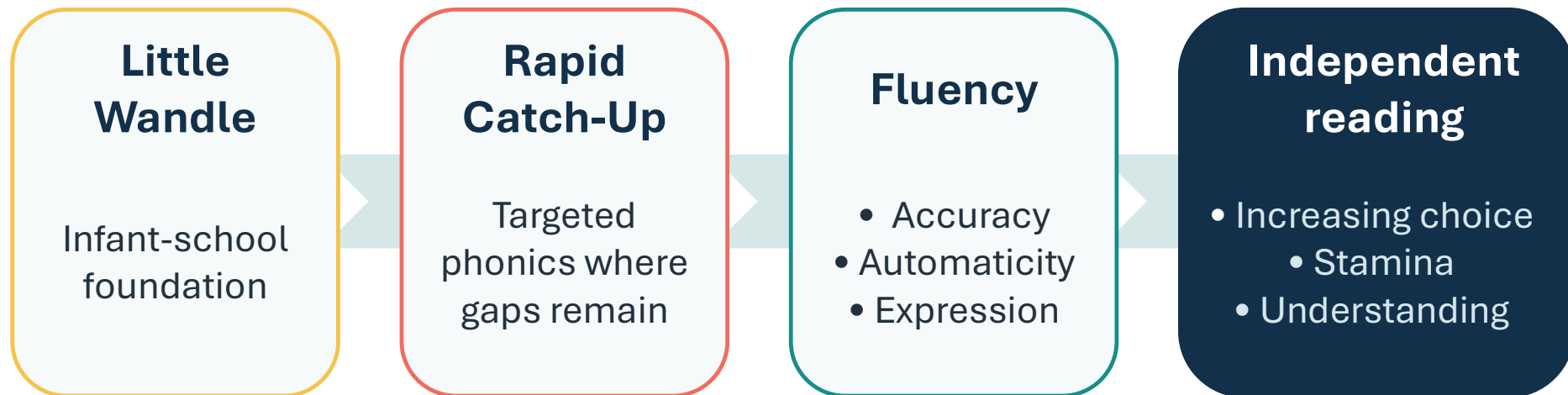
Reading for Pleasure

Choice, book talk, recommendations and time to become absorbed in texts.

At Crosshall Junior School, reading for pleasure and reading for purpose sit side by side.

Reading Transition

We build from the phonics foundations at Crosshall Infant School towards confident independence.



**Support is matched to what each child needs.
It is a bridge to independence, not a label.**

What reading looks like in school

Reading is taught, practised and enjoyed across the week.

1

Teach

Discrete reading
teaching: fluency,
extended, close
Comprehension
strategies

2

Talk

Explicit vocabulary
teaching
Book talk

3

Practise

Independent
reading
Related tasks
Fluency & stamina

4

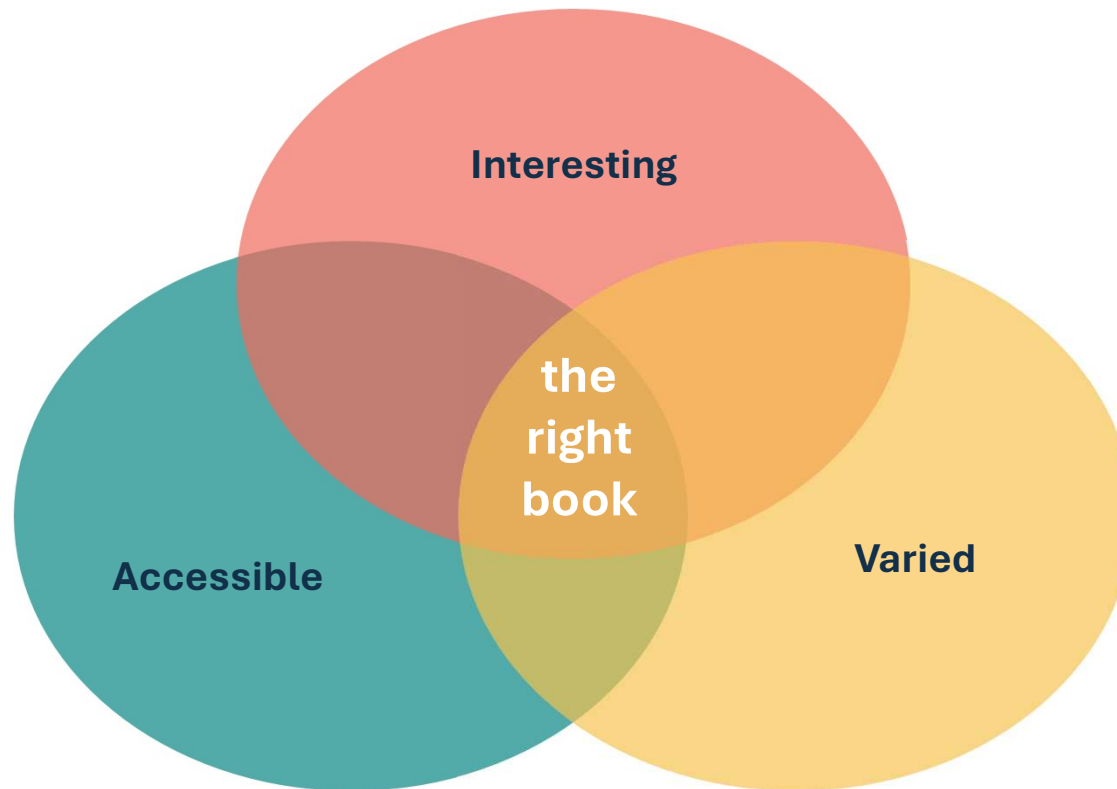
Enjoy

Class books
Topic-linked texts
Library & reading
culture

**Reading is not confined to an “English slot”.
It is a golden thread through school life.**

Choosing books: the sweet spot

The best book is one a child can engage with and wants to keep reading.



novel • graphic novel • poetry • non-fiction • magazines • audiobooks alongside print



Reading at Home

Simple, consistent and achievable

20

minutes

every day

3+

**times each
week**

with an adult

Make it work

- regular time
- comfortable place
- phones away
- choice where possible
- stop before it becomes a battle



When you read together: talk, don't test

A few natural prompts are enough.

Notice “What stood out to you?”

Clarify “Was there a word or bit that was tricky?”

Connect “Does this remind you of anything else?”

Wonder “What do you think might happen, and why?”

Recommend “Who would you give this book to?”

There are prompts in the front of the reading diaries for more inspiration.

Reading for Pleasure

Choice + access + conversation = more chances to find “my kind of book”.



School library

Use the library, the librarians and staff recommendations.

Local library

Borrow widely and revisit favourites without buying every book.

Free digital reading

Borrowbox, Libby and others via the local library.

Tip: audiobooks can sit alongside print, especially for sharing richer stories and vocabulary.

How we know when extra support is needed

Assessment leads to the right teaching, not simply a score.



Notice & assess

Reading lessons, independent reading and assessments help identify strengths and gaps.



Teach precisely

Targeted phonics via Rapid Catch-Up and/or focused fluency work where needed.



Review & move on

Support changes as reading becomes more accurate, automatic and confident.



Three things to take away

20 minutes

Read every day.

3+ times

Share reading with
an adult each
week.

**Keep it
positive**

Choice,
conversation and
enjoyment matter.

Thank you for helping us build confident, curious readers.