

Reading Vision Statement



*As Jesus welcomes and values children, we at St Michael's **aspire** to welcome and value all members of our community. We **believe** that this welcome and value provides opportunities for all to **succeed**.*

Matthew 18: 2-5

At Coningsby St Michael's, we believe that reading is the gateway to learning, imagination, and lifelong success. Our reading curriculum is built on the values of **Aspire, Believe, Succeed**, empowering every child to become a fluent, thoughtful, and passionate reader.

We **aspire** for all children to access rich and diverse texts that challenge, inspire, and reflect the world around them. We **believe** that every child can succeed in reading through high-quality teaching, inclusive practices, and a love of literature that begins in the early years and grows throughout their time with us.

Our approach to teaching reading fluency is grounded in the **EARS model—Expression, Automaticity, Rhythm, and Smoothness**—ensuring that children not only decode words but read with meaning, confidence, and enjoyment. Through regular fluency practice, children develop the skills to read aloud with clarity and understanding, supporting comprehension and engagement.

We plan our reading curriculum using a text-led approach, placing high-quality literature at the heart of learning. This enables deep exploration of language, structure, and theme, while fostering emotional connection and critical thinking. Texts are chosen to reflect a range of voices, cultures, and experiences, promoting empathy, diversity, and inclusion.

Reading at Coningsby St Michael's is:

- **Inclusive:** Every child is supported to access and enjoy reading, regardless of background or ability.
- **Progressive:** Skills are built systematically from phonics to comprehension, fluency, and literary analysis.
- **Purposeful:** Reading is embedded across the curriculum, enriching vocabulary, knowledge, and understanding.
- **Joyful:** We celebrate reading through author visits, book clubs, themed events, and a vibrant reading culture.

Through reading, our children develop:

- A strong sense of identity and voice
- The ability to understand and interpret the world
- Respect for others and appreciation of diversity
- The confidence to succeed academically and socially

We aim for every child to leave Coningsby St Michael's as a **curious, capable, and compassionate reader**, ready to explore new ideas, connect with others, and shape their future with confidence.