At Overdale Junior School, we recognise the importance of reading for both academic achievement and enjoyment. Through our well-rounded reading offer, we aim to inspire a lifelong love of books, supporting our children to become confident and enthusiastic readers.

Curriculum Reading

Our curriculum reading programme focuses on developing essential reading skills through a carefully planned and mapped approach.

Key features of our curriculum reading offer include:

- Discreet reading lessons focused on practicing and reinforcing specific reading skills, such as comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary.
- Daily 1:1 reading time with our first 5% of readers and regular reading time with our first 20% of readers
- Use of the Accelerated Reader to allocate children with books that are both challenging and engaging, helping them to build confidence and progress in their reading.

Access to a diverse library selection which reflects the different cultures, interest and experiences of the children in our school, with texts chosen by the children themselves through regular pupil voice exercises.

Reading for Pleasure

We place a strong emphasis on reading for enjoyment, knowing that a love of books contributes to lifelong learning. Key features of our reading for pleasure offer include:

- Regular 'Reading-for-pleasure' sessions to allow children to engage in "book talk" with peers, where they discuss their current reading, share recommendations, and explore new titles.
- 10-minute daily class story time: Every day, teachers read aloud a story to the class, fostering a shared reading experience and sparking children' imaginations.
- Daily opportunities to enjoy independent reading, providing children with the opportunity to immerse themselves in a book.
- Celebration of reading achievements at home each week in our whole-school celebration assembly

Engagement with national events such as World Book Day and National Storytelling Week, and local initiatives, such as Leicester's Our Best Book.