

Engaging parents

Working with parents and carers is critical to achieving the best possible outcomes for children's learning. Even before children start school, the more parents talk to their children and read and share stories with them, the greater their chances of reading success.

In Year 2 and beyond, the engagement of parents and carers still has an extremely positive impact on boosting children's literacy skills. Parents' attitudes to books and reading can also have a profound effect on children's attitudes.

So how can you work with parents and engage them in their children's reading?

- Keep parents informed about their children's reading progress and be clear about exactly what you'd like parents to do when reading at home with children. All Bug Club Independent and Guided books include tips and activities at the beginning and end of each to help parents to support their child's reading.
- Bug Club and Rapid eBooks can all be accessed at home as well as in school and they are a great way for children to share the books they are reading with their parents. The engaging and fun ActiveLearn Pupil World includes a 'Grown-ups' area that is packed full of helpful suggestions for parents who want to know how they can support their child in learning to read.
- If you read a Bug Club Shared or Reading Corner book aloud to the class, parents will be able to access it online to re-read with their child. Bug Club Shared even includes videos of professional storytellers reading each story aloud so parents and children can enjoy listening together. You could also make a selection of printed books available for parents to borrow and share with their children at home.
- For children who do not have much support at home, the Bug Club and Rapid eBooks are a great way for them to access learning by themselves – all Bug Club Key Stage 1 eBooks and all Rapid eBooks have built-in 'Read to me' audio so the child can hear fluent reading modelled to them and does not need to get 'stuck'. All eBooks in Rapid, Bug Club Independent and Bug Club Guided also include built-in interactive activities to encourage children to think about what they are reading and develop comprehension of the texts.

