

## Guided Reading at St Aidan's Catholic Primary School

At St Aidan's we want to instil a lifelong love of reading in every child. We want our children to develop as confident and capable readers, who develop a love of reading and have all the skills necessary to help them understand what they read. As part of our guided reading, we use an approach called Reading Gems.

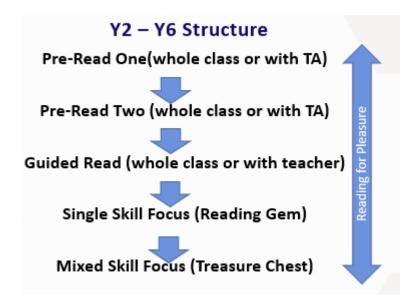
## What are Reading Gems?

Reading Gems is a reading strategy that aims to teach children to take pleasure in reading by themselves, listening to someone else read, and sharing texts with adults and other children. Different and specific key skills are taught explicitly to the children through discussions about texts, teacher modelling and opportunities to answer questions independently or with support where needed. Each new reading skill is allocated a colour-coded 'gem'. Every week, children focus on a certain reading gem and learn strategies to help them develop that particular skill. Phonics is taught separately to ensure the children develop the necessary decoding strategies that underpin all reading

An example of a guided reading weekly overview

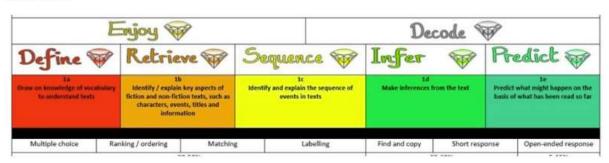
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Pre-read 1	Pre-read 2	Guided read- specific content domain (single skill)	Guided read- follow up activity for specific domain (single skill)	Guided reading- mixed domain questions



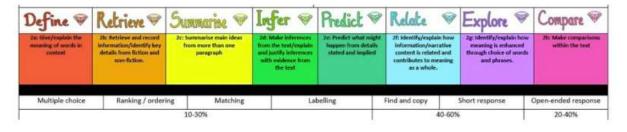


The Reading Gems that are used at KS1 and KS2. Teachers will use the language below with children to aid familiarity and understanding.

## Key Stage 1



## Key Stage 2





Teachers will focus on one reading gem per week to explicitly teach and focus upon, allowing modelling by a teacher and then chances to practise and apply throughout the week. It is important that the strategies within each skill are taught effectively and that pupils are exposed to opportunities to practise and explore them regularly through different text types.

Each of the skills link to strategies and every day reading techniques. However, some domains are more common than others: retrieving, defining and inferring are used most frequently in day to day life. Children will therefore be exposed to skills within these domains on a more regular cycle, perhaps every 3 weeks, with a lighter touch teaching approach to the other domains.

Below is an example of our KS2 7-week autumn half term overview.

Week		Reading gem	
Week 1	WB 11.9.23	Retrieval	
Week 2	WB 18.9.23	Define	
Week 3		Inference	
Week 4	WB 2.10.23	Retrieval	
	WB 9.10.23	Summarise	
Week 6	WB 16.10.23	Complete comprehension	
		unit	