



Peterborough Pathway to Success Reading Strategy 2017 to 2020



Short introduction from Gillian, Kevin and Jonathan

Why is reading important?

- Reading improves people's health and well-being, including mental and physical health and relaxation e.g. sharing books and reading to babies and young children helps families to bond;
- Reading engagement and reading for pleasure support people in their social interactions, creativity, empathy, self-expression and understanding of themselves and others that can lead to community cohesion (BOP Consulting (2015), The impact of reading for pleasure and empowerment. London: The Reading Agency);
- Access to books and parents who value reading and reading for pleasure have a big impact on how much and how well a child reads (Clark C and Hawkins L, 2010)
- Babies and children who are read to regularly are more likely to be better readers: even at the age of two a child's language development is a strong predictor of their reading skills at the age of five (F Collins and C Svensson (2005), Bookstart: Planting a seed for Life);
- As many as one in six struggle with reading (Skills for Life Survey).
- Being a competent reader and reading daily or weekly has a positive impact upon educational success and how well people do in later life: people who only have functional literacy skills earn, on average, 16% more than those who don't (Morrisroe, J: Literacy Changes Lives 2014 p5 Islington);

Why is the improvement of reading important for every child in Peterborough?

- Currently achievement in reading is significantly lower than national averages and lower than that in other local authorities
- The number of children moving into and leaving Peterborough schools at non-standard times is the second highest in the country and this has disruptive impacts on the outcomes of too many pupils (Between the Cracks Report, 2013); from October 2016 to January 2017, 630 children joined and 432 children left Peterborough schools at non-standard times
- Our diverse community, with 138 languages spoken, will be more cohesive (April 2017 DfE School Census)
- More children will visit Peterborough's 10 libraries and will be choosing to read for pleasure
- More children will achieve age-related expectations and a greater proportion will be at the national averages and above for reading attainment and progress
- Greater opportunities will be created within education and for employment for young people within Peterborough.

How are we going to achieve improvement of reading in Peterborough?

Local literacy initiatives are the best means of understanding and targeting local community needs (Morrisroe J, 2015. NLT Hubs). The National Literacy Trust local hub in Peterborough has already established some partnership working with a range of agencies across Peterborough. We intend to further develop local shared initiatives and partnership working, to improve enjoyment, engagement and achievement in reading.

We will particularly focus on the following **new initiatives**:

- Raising awareness of and implementing the School Readiness Project;
- Training Reading Buddies for all schools;
- Encouraging schools and partners to prioritise reading through signing up to the Peterborough 'Reading Pledge';
- Celebrating the Peterborough Year of Reading for 2019;

Add footnotes for references

Our Vision

Peterborough becomes a city where reading enables every child to have improved life opportunities

Priorities

Enjoyment
More children enjoy reading

Engagement
More children read more often

Achievement
More children have improved achievement reading

Aims

We will contribute to lifelong achievement, wellbeing and breaking the cycle of poverty by:

- Bringing together the whole Peterborough community to excite children about the possibilities of reading
- Providing inspiring and enjoyable activities linked to reading
- Increasing library membership & active library usage
- Increasing opportunities to read in a variety of places
- Further motivating parents/carers in participating in the development of their children's reading skills
- Raising attainment and progress in reading from starting points (EYFS, KS2 & GCSE)
- Closing the gap to national averages for reading

Current Initiatives

Enjoyment: Boys into Books; NLT Books Unlocked; Rhyme Time; Storytime; Summer Reading Challenge; Holiday and Half-Term activities in Libraries

Engagement: Book Bus; Bookstart; City Read; Community Meet and Eat Events; Community Serve Pop-Up Shops; Community Story-telling Events; Heritage Festival; Peterborough City of Reading 2019; Reading Cafes; Reading Champions; Summer Holiday Pop-up Literacy Shops.

Achievement: Early Words Together; Edge Hill University Intervention Programmes: Readers Count and Project X CODE; Every Child a Talker (ECAT); Improving Literacy Programmes for targeted schools; Power of Reading; Raising Early Achievement in Literacy (REAL); Reading Buddies; Reading for Inference

Outcomes Milestones Evaluation

By the end of the Reading Strategy (August 2020), we will achieve the following outcomes:

- The rate of improvement in Peterborough will be double the national rate of improvement
- Attainment and progress in reading from starting points will be raised and the gap to national averages narrowed:
 - ⇒ EYFS Communication and Literacy Expected plus (above 75% and less than 7pts% below national) and Reading Expected plus (above 75% and less than 8%pts below national average)
 - ⇒ KS1 Reading attainment (above 68% and less than 6%pts below national average)
 - ⇒ KS2 Reading attainment (above 55% and less than 11%pts below national average)
 - ⇒ KS2 Reading progress (above -1.12 and at least in-line with national average of 0)
 - ⇒ GCSE English A-C (above 70% and less than 5%pts)
- School Readiness survey shows improvement in Listening, Sharing and Effective Communication measures (above 70%)
- Increase library membership & active library usage 2500 more children join the library each year
- Increase opportunities to read in a variety of places (100 new places)
- Surveys on reading show improved levels of enjoyment (greater than 60%)
- Have at least 100 Reading Buddies trained and volunteering in Peterborough schools
- Have at least 90% of schools and at least 40 partner organisations signed up to the Reading Pledge
- Peterborough 2019 Year of Reading is celebrated across the city and has a high profile in the media

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Reading Strategy will be monitored by the Lead Officers for PCC School Standards and Effectiveness, the NLT Hub and Vivacity and impact reports will be provided for the PCC Scrutiny Committee on a termly basis.

The Reading Strategy will be evaluated by: the PCC Scrutiny Committee.

Peterborough Reading Strategy PLEDGE

As part of the Peterborough Reading Strategy, developed in partnership with the National Literacy Trust Literacy Hub in Peterborough, Vivacity and Peterborough City Council,

we invite you to undertake three actions (one from each section) to put reading at the heart of your organisation's strategy:

Your Organisation

- Use the Peterborough Reading Strategy to promote reading for all staff in your organisation
- Create a page on your organisation's intranet dedicated to encouraging reading activities for example a staff book club or recommended reads
- Ensure engaging reading materials are available in public waiting areas within your organisation
- Include the Reading Strategy logo (to be developed) on official documents to show that your organisation is working in partnership to promote reading

Your Staff

- Actively encourage all staff/employees to join their local library
- Identify an Ambassador of Reading to take special responsibility for promoting reading within your organisation
- Create a yearly reading reward or prize within your organisation

Reading in the Community

- Send information to all parents and carers within your organisation at least three times a year, asking them to read regularly with and to their children and highlighting free resources available to support this, for example the [Words for Life website](#)
- Promote The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge to all employees who have children aged 3 to 12
- Identify at least one person in your organisation who would be interested in training to be a volunteer as a Reading Buddy within a local school.

We are committed to working with as many partners as possible and we hope that these partners will sign-up to the Peterborough Reading Pledge

Strategic Partners: Peterborough City Council (PCC); Vivacity; National Literacy Trust

Other Partners: Arts & Cultural organisations; Axiom Housing; Barnardos; BookTrust; City College Peterborough, Community Connectors; CPFT (Health Visiting Teams); Cross Keys Housing; Faith Groups; Families Information Service; Opportunity Peterborough; Phantoms; Peterborough Learning Partnership; POSH; Preschool Sector; Public Health; Schools and Academies; Spurgeons; Stagecoach;