



Temple Meadow Primary School

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 Temple Meadow Primary School

Our Ref: MC/CH

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Changes to Reading Assessment and Book Banding

Dear Families,

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality reading education for all children, we have introduced a new, research-informed approach to assessing reading across the school this academic year.

This assessment system has been carefully selected because it provides a more accurate understanding of each child's reading development, particularly in relation to decoding, word recognition and reading fluency. These skills form the essential foundations of successful reading and support children in becoming confident, capable readers.

As a result of this change, some children may have been placed within a different reading band from the one they were previously working within. In some instances, it may appear that a child has moved to a lower band than before. We understand that this may be surprising and would like to reassure you that there is no cause for concern.

This change does not mean that your child has gone backwards in their reading. Rather, it reflects a more precise assessment of the skills they need to develop next. By ensuring that children read books that are closely matched to their current decoding skills and reading fluency, we can help them experience success, build confidence and make stronger progress over time.

Research consistently shows that children make the greatest gains in reading when they have access to books that closely match their stage of development. Our new assessment approach allows us to do this more effectively, ensuring that every child receives the right balance of support and challenge.

We greatly appreciate your continued support in fostering a love of reading at home. Please continue to read regularly with your child, talk about the books they enjoy and celebrate their achievements, however small they may seem. Together, we can help every child become a fluent, confident and enthusiastic reader.

If you have any questions about the new assessment system or your child's reading journey, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

M. Curzon

Mr Curzon
English Lead

