



### **What does Literacy look like in Early Years at the NCEA Trust?**

Our curriculum is based around story books, non-fiction books, rhymes and poems. We want children to gain a love of reading and a joy of books from a very young age.

We feel that stories enable the children to find out more about the world around them and have the opportunity to explore real and imaginary places. They enable children to experience different situations, cultures, feelings and learn new facts.

Adults share stories and rhymes on a daily basis. Children are encouraged to join in, retell and draw/write their own stories and ideas. They are taught the skills needed to be able to do this. We include parents and carers on this journey and we really value their encouragement and support helping their child to practise the skills that have been taught in school.

### **Literacy in Reception:**

In Reception children learn how to read and write individual letter sounds and then blend these sounds into words for reading and segment the words for writing. We follow a program called Read Write Inc. phonics which is continued in Year 1. The children are also taught common exception words, these are words that cannot be sounded out. We call these words 'red' words.

Children are taught how to read and write short sentences. They are encouraged to write for different purposes. They take books and sounds home to practise the skills that they have learnt in school which helps to build their confidence and fluency. Our class story focus continues with children learning phrases and retelling familiar stories.

Children act out, sequence and make links between different stories. They talk about characters, make props and labels to explore the stories further. They use non-fiction books to find out information both linked to their focussed learning and also to explore their own interests.