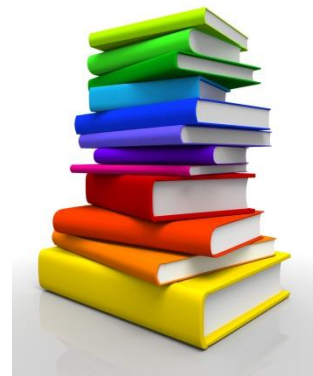


Book Banding

What is Book Banding?

Book Banding is a national scheme that grades children's reading books according to the difficulty of the text. Each level of books is given a colour and stickers are used to indicate this.



Why Book Band?

When a child is learning to read, it is important that they have access to lots of different kinds of books and a wide vocabulary. Most reading schemes have their own core vocabulary and many teachers have found that children struggle when they are asked to read something different. Book Banding is designed to help schools grade their reading books across schemes. Children have access to the variety they need, whilst still being supported at the correct reading level.

How are the books levelled?

All publishers grade their scheme to their specification but the Book Band system is broader in its levelling. It is based on careful research into the kind of words used in each book, the length of the sentences, punctuation, story style or non-fiction format and text size.

What can I expect?

Your child will be bringing home books from various schemes within the Book Band colour allocated to them by their class teacher. It may be, because of the broader nature of Book Band levelling, that there are books from different levels of the same reading scheme in one colour band. As long as the book is in your child's book band colour, the level is right for them.

When will the child move to the next colour band?

For a child to be an effective reader, they need to not only read the words on the page but also understand what they have read. The class teacher will carefully monitor you child's reading and move them on to the next colour band when they are ready.

With thanks

Mr L Rowcroft and Miss H Gaskin
(KS2 and KS1 Literacy coordinators)