Priestley Smith Subject Information for Parents - Braille



Student Information

- **Student Name:**
- **Working at Grade(s):**

Key Staff Contacts

- **Secondary Teacher:** h.kadir@priestley.bham.sch.uk
- **Primary Teacher:** c.oldacres@priestley.bham.sch.uk

Intent (Why are we doing it)	Implement (How we are going to do it)	Impact (What we want to see and develop)
We aim to develop advanced Braille literacy that supports academic achievement and independent living. Learners will apply Braille confidently across subjects and everyday tasks. The curriculum promotes fluency, self-expression, and lifelong learning.	Lessons build on prior Braille knowledge using tactile resources, technology, and subject integration. Teaching is differentiated and multisensory, with regular opportunities for practice and feedback. Collaboration with staff ensures Braille is embedded across the curriculum.	Learners read and write Braille fluently in academic and real-world contexts. They show increased independence, confidence, and digital literacy. Braille skills contribute to broader educational progress and inclusion.

Braille Reading Scheme

Braille is taught in a 1:1 setting and lessons are individualised and taught at an appropriate pace for each pupil. Pupils follow three schemes: Hands On and Abi and Take Off.

Hands on

Books that focus on introducing letters, CVC words and simple sentences and storybooks at the end of each level to consolidate letters learnt.
Level 1- a, g, b, l, i k ‘for’, ‘little’
Level 2- c, d, o, t, h ‘and’, ‘good’
Level 3- e, m, p, s, n ‘the’, u
Level 4- y, r, f, x and numbers 1-5. Punctuation: full stop, capital letter, comma and question mark.
Level 5- v, w, j, q, z and numbers 6-10.

Abi Books

Story-based learning with contracted braille:
The Abi stories start off short and get longer and more complex as pupils progress through the scheme. Each book contains contracted braille signs that are reinforced throughout the stories. The books have comprehension pages at the end to check learning.
Books 1-10 equivalent to Take Off Series 1
Books 11-20 equivalent to Take Off Series 2
Books 21-25 equivalent to Take Off Series 3

Books 26-29 equivalent to Take Off Series 4
Books 30-33 equivalent to Take Off Series 5
Books 34-40 equivalent to Take Off Series 6

Take Off Scheme
The Take Off scheme continues to introduce contracted braille signs. Completion of the scheme results in pupils being competent in UEB braille.
Take Off Series 7 – 12 stands alone

Tasks

Tracking and tracing
Word reading
Sentence building
Comprehension tasks
Reading and Writing assessments

Skills acquired

Advanced Braille Literacy

- **Fluent reading** of extended texts including fiction, nonfiction, and subject-specific materials
- **Structured writing** using contracted Braille
- **Editing and proofreading** Braille work with accuracy

Functional Independence

- **Labelling and organising** personal items and learning materials
- **Reading Braille signage** and tactile maps in public spaces
- **Completing forms** confidently in Braille

Communication and Confidence

- **Expressing ideas clearly** in written and spoken formats
- **Participating in group learning** with independence and self-assurance
- **Setting personal goals** and reflecting on progress

Home Learning – What you can do to support the learning taking place at school.

- Daily Practice: Encourage regular Braille reading and writing to build fluency
- Braille Books will be sent home from Braille teachers to consolidate letters and signs learnt in 1: 1 sessions
- Functional Use: Label household items in Braille to promote independence.
- Communication: Talk about what your child is learning to boost confidence.
- Digital Literacy: Support use of Braille technology for homework and communication.
- Real-World Application: Let your child read Braille signs or menus when out and about.