

English

Our Intent for our English curriculum:

English and the teaching of English is the foundation of our curriculum. Our main aim is to ensure every single child becomes primary literate and makes progress in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Staff are aware of the differing groups of learners and vulnerable children in their class. Once this information is acquired, teachers can plan and teach personalised English lessons which focus on the particular needs of each child. We recognise that each child has their own starting point upon entry to every year group and progress is measured in line with these starting points to ensure every child can celebrate success.

English is not only be a daily discrete lesson, but is the cornerstone of the entire curriculum. It is embedded within all our lessons and we will strive for a high level of English for all. Through using high-quality texts, immersing children in vocabulary rich learning environments and ensuring new curriculum expectations and the progression of skills are met. Children will be exposed to a language heavy, creative and continuous English curriculum which will not only enable them to become primary literate but will also develop a love of reading, creative writing and purposeful speaking and listening, our vision is for creativity to be at the heart of our English curriculum and for children to learn new skills in a fun and engaging way.

Our Implementation for our English curriculum:

With these aims in mind, we aim to ensure that reading is explicitly taught every day and that each group of children has time with the teacher, in the reading session, once a week. Vulnerable groups are highlighted and support staff used to support these groups further to ensure progression and the specific year group skills are secure. Children will not only learn comprehension skills but also independence, a love of wider reading and exposure to rich vocabulary, which is absolute key; not just in English but in all sessions for all learners. Reading is not only celebrated in classrooms, but around school you will find displays which celebrate authors, children's favourite books and reading reward schemes. In addition, throughout the school year the importance of reading is enhanced through World Book Day, author and poet visits, parent reading workshops and a range of trips and visits which enrich and complement children's learning.

We strive to ensure that the teaching of writing is purposeful, robust and shows clear progression for all children. In line with the national curriculum, we ensure that each year group is taught the explicit grammar, punctuation and spelling objectives required for that age group. As well as teaching the objectives, teachers are able to embed the skills throughout the year through cross-curricular writing opportunities to ensure that most children are achieving the objectives at the expected level and that some children can achieve at a greater depth standard.

In order to expose children to a variety of genres (which utilises and embeds writing skills), teachers use a variety of resources to structure and teach their English lessons. The children's journey aims to show progress, in year group objectives, allows them to apply and consolidate their skills and develop vocabulary. Writing is taught through the use of a quality texts, which exposes the children to inference, high-level vocabulary, a range of punctuation and characterisation. Each text is purposefully selected in order to promote a love of reading, engagement and high quality writing from each child.

The impact of our English Curriculum:

The impact is clear: progress, sustained learning and transferrable skills. With the implementation of the writing journey being well established and taught thoroughly in both key stages, children are becoming more confident writers and by the time they are in upper Key Stage 2, most genres of writing are familiar to them and the teaching can focus on creativity, writer's craft, sustained writing and manipulation of grammar and punctuation skills.

As all aspects of English are an integral part of the curriculum, cross curricular writing standards have also improved and skills taught in the English lesson are transferred into other subjects; this shows consolidation of skills and a deeper understanding of how and when to use specific grammar, punctuation and grammar objectives.

We hope that as children move on from us to further their education and learning that their creativity, passion for English and high aspirations travel with them and continue to grow and develop as they do.