

ENGLISH POLICY

OVERVIEW

This policy will ensure that we teach all our pupils to speak, read and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others through their reading and writing and others can communicate with them. Developing pupils' skills in reading will enable them to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually and the literature, we immerse children in, will play a key role in such development.

INTENT

1. To promote high standards of language and literacy, reading, spelling, writing, speaking and listening.
2. To equip pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment.
3. To teach pupils to read easily, fluently and with good understanding.
4. To help pupils develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
5. To ensure that pupils acquire a wide vocabulary and an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
6. To help pupils to appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
7. To teach pupils to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
8. To enable pupils to use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
9. To ensure that pupils are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Teachers will develop pupils' spoken language across the whole curriculum – cognitively, socially and linguistically.
2. Spoken language will underpin the development of reading and writing.
3. The quality and variety of language that pupils hear and speak will be used for developing their vocabulary and grammar and their understanding for reading and writing.
4. Teachers will ensure the continual development of pupils' confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills.
5. Pupils will develop a capacity to explain their understanding of books and other reading, and to prepare their ideas before they write.
6. Pupils will be helped to make their thinking clear to themselves as well as to others and teachers will ensure that pupils build secure foundations by using discussion to probe and remedy their misconceptions.
7. Drama, poetry and role play will be used to build pupils confidence and to practice their skills in speaking, listening reading writing and performing in front of others.
8. The teaching of reading will focus on word reading and comprehension. In the light of the impact of school closures during the pandemic, teachers will prioritise the assessment of pupils' decoding skills and the implementation of systematic synthetic phonics teaching, with plenty of opportunities for practice. Opportunities for frequent reading for our children are a priority.
9. Comprehension skills will be developed through our pupils' experience of high-quality discussion with their teachers, as well as from reading and discussing a range of texts.
10. All pupils will be encouraged to read widely across both fiction and non-fiction to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live, to establish an appreciation and love of reading which will also influence their writing.
11. In Key Stage 1, we will provide shorter writing tasks rather than extended pieces to allow pupils to focus on sentence structure and spelling.
12. Time will be given for all pupils to practice their handwriting regularly to increase its fluency, legibility and quality.
13. In Key Stage 2, we will use Scode and Project X Code to support pupils who are at risk of failing to learn to read and spell fluently and accurately.
14. Teaching will develop pupils' competence in transcription and composition and they will be taught how to plan, revise and evaluate their writing.
15. Pupils will be taught to use the elements of spelling, grammar and punctuation correctly, and to understand and use Standard English when speaking and writing.

IMPACT

English is one of the most important subjects taught in this school. All the skills of English are essential to participating fully as a member of society. Therefore, all pupils will learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently.