



English Policy

At Pleasant Street Primary School, we believe that literacy and communication are key life skills. Through the English curriculum, we will help children develop the skills and knowledge that will enable them to communicate effectively and creatively through spoken and written language and equip them with the skills to become lifelong learners. We want children to enjoy and appreciate literature and its rich variety. Through a range of high quality texts and experiences we endeavour to ensure that our children enjoy participating in lessons, developing a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards English lessons that will stay with them for life.

Aims

- Confident communicator with excellent speaking and listening and oracy skills
- Has a range of vocabulary that they can use in conversations and their writing across subjects
- Show an enjoyment for reading, reads often for both pleasure and information
- Read fluently with a good understanding of what they have read
- Articulate feelings and formulate responses to a range of texts using appropriate vocabulary
- Write clearly, showing stamina in a range of genres for a range of audiences and purposes, adjusting their language and style accordingly
- Be able to express opinions confidently
- Use grammar and punctuation accurately
- Understand spelling conventions
- Produce effective, well presented written work.

Expectations

We aim to ensure that every child achieves success and that all are enabled to develop their skills across the English curriculum in accordance with their individual level of ability. When teaching our English curriculum we want our pupils to acquire the knowledge and understanding and skills to become lifelong learners with excellent communication skills. The curriculum is designed to ensure that pupils develop their reading, writing, phonics and oracy skills in both English lessons and across the wider curriculum.

Curriculum, teaching and learning

Children will be taught in their normal class group for English, basic skills and phonics sessions and all classrooms should have a washing line dedicated to their current text for both adults and children to refer to. All pupils take part in a daily English lesson based on the Literacy Counts scheme of work, 'Read to Write'. The teaching of writing is through carefully constructed units based around high quality texts. Each unit of work starts with a hook lesson to create interest, the unit then leads to an analysis of the text, before the pupils plan and write their own work. Books linked to the genre and other high quality texts are displayed in the class library for the children to explore and enjoy.

Phonics is taught systematically throughout the school in EYFS and KS1 daily and continues for some pupils in KS2 using the Monster Phonics scheme of work. Language development, phonics and reading is also supported through high quality interventions for pupils requiring further support.

Reading is an integral part of our school curriculum, pupils read regularly with school staff and a love of reading is promoted across the school. High quality texts are used to support the wider curriculum and pupils have access to class libraries and a well-stocked school library.

Additional basic skills sessions take place outside of the daily English lesson. The sessions include discrete spelling and grammar lessons, comprehension sessions, whole class reading and guided reading in Y1. The sessions are planned against age related expectations and include opportunities to link with previous, current or future learning.



Assessment, recording and reporting

Children are assessed against the national curriculum targets using Classroom Monitor. These are assessed continuously and are marked on a RAG basis and dated. Pupils also have termly assessments using NFER papers. Analysis of assessment data is used to set targets and alter teaching in order to address particular identified target groups, the data also provides comparisons with other pupils nationally.

Staff development

Teachers are expected to keep up to date with subject knowledge and use current materials that are available in school or online. Regular CPD is provided for all staff both internally and external providers.

Monitoring and evaluation

English is monitored through book looks, walk arounds, pupil interviews and teacher evaluations. Pupil progress is monitored through on-going teacher assessments and termly formal assessments.