



Subject: English

Rationale

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.

Characteristics of a Well-rounded Learner in English (Curriculum 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.

Curriculum Intent

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.

Throughout their time at Pleasant Street, children develop their skills by exploring a range of genres. Reading and high quality texts are an integral part of our curriculum. Texts have been selected so that the pupils experience a range of texts to broaden their vocabulary and understanding of grammar whilst developing a love of reading and writing.

Curriculum Implementation

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.

Phonics is taught systematically throughout the school in EYFS and KS1 daily and continues for some pupils in KS2. 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.

Curriculum Impact

As a result, we have an environment in Pleasant Street that helps children develop an enthusiasm and confidence in all aspects of English. Pupils enjoy English lessons and are confident communicators with excellent speaking and listening and oracy skills. Children are confident, fluent readers and they realise the importance of reading for pleasure along with reading for information and knowledge.

By the end of KS2, children consistently make well above average progress from their starting points and show that they are able to use their skills across the curriculum confidently.