

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Living and Learning Together – Shining in our Faith



English Intent Document

Intent

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, we believe that a quality English curriculum should develop children's love of reading, writing and spoken language. We aim to inspire an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage and a habit of reading widely and often. We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts. We want our children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening and to use discussion to communicate and further develop their learning.

We believe that children need to develop a secure knowledge-base in English, which follows a clear pathway of progression as they advance through the primary curriculum. We believe that a secure basis in English skills is crucial to a high-quality education and will give our children the tools they need to participate fully as a member of society.

Implementation

At St Mary's, our curriculum is made of the following sequence:

- Spoken Language;
- Reading: word reading and comprehension;
- Writing: transcription, composition, vocabulary, grammar and punctuation.

We plan teaching sequences from Nursery to Year 6 to plan broad, balanced units of work with a clear outcome at the end of each unit. To ensure the progression of learning and coverage of the National Curriculum, each unit is mapped-out comprehensively; to show the progression of skills and knowledge.

We teach our children in mixed aged classes; therefore, substantive and disciplinary knowledge is taught at an age-related level. English is taught daily and all lessons are sequenced, so that prior learning is considered and opportunities for revision of language and grammar are built in. Each lesson helps the children to build on prior knowledge alongside the introduction of new skills.

These aims are embedded across our English lessons and through the wider curriculum. We have a rigorous and well organised English curriculum that provides many purposeful opportunities for reading, writing and discussion. Teachers also ensure that cross curricular links provide time for further writing opportunities.

Impact

Our English curriculum offers high quality and well-planned lessons, which encourage progression. Key vocabulary are embedded in each lesson. Continuity and progression are in-built within the curriculum. These are broken into year group expectations.

In order to ensure our aims have been met, we scrutinise learning through:

- Assessing children's understanding of the English through each unit of work including linked vocabulary before and after the unit is taught.
- Talking to children during the lesson to ensure they have understood the learning objective – Assessment for learning.
- Mark completed work – Assessment for learning

The above enables the teacher to make an informed judgement on the children's understanding and records them against the age-related standards on the school assessment tool, Lancashire Tracker.

For any additional information regarding the English curriculum please contact Mrs. Preston (Subject Lead) or Mrs Smallwood (Subject Governor).