

English Curriculum Intent: Writing and SPaG

At Sacred Heart, it is our intention that when teaching the writing curriculum, we develop enjoyment, opportunities, and creativity. We strive to help our children develop into articulate and imaginative communicators, who are well-equipped with the basic skills they need to become life-long learners; English learning is key in this. We aim to ensure all our pupils can confidently communicate their knowledge, ideas and emotions through their writing. Careful links are made across the curriculum to ensure that children's English learning is relevant and meaningful with opportunities to apply their skills in a variety of relevant contexts.

It is intended that pupils will:

- ✓ acquire a wide vocabulary embedded and connected with their wider learning, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.
- ✓ quickly develop skills in order to be able to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences appropriate to their age and in keeping with national curriculum expectation.
- ✓ be able to spell new words by effectively applying spelling patterns and rules they learn throughout their time at primary school.
- ✓ take ownership of their writing by editing and refining their work over-time.

English Curriculum Implementation

The English curriculum is delivered via discrete literacy lessons in years 1 to 6, linked with and embedded through carefully planned links with the wider curriculum.

- In EYFS, writing is delivered through the daily phonics session and the classroom provision areas with opportunities for daily practice and adult led focused teaching. The development of oracy is encouraged using 'helicopter stories' and simple story planning is introduced. Story planning tools are used orally initially before rapidly moving into the written form. These are available all the time and enhance the provision areas. In Year One, the story writing methodologies are further developed using Talk for Writing techniques.
- Writing is taught through a PICC approach to genres (Predict, Interrogate, Capture and Create). This enables learners to be imaginative and encounter a range of genres whilst progressing through Sacred Heart. They are often repeated to consolidate and extend learning previously taken place.
- We use a wide variety of texts and resources to motivate and inspire the children, paying attention to the needs and interests of the children.
- Each year group have a yearly overview of the writing genres, narrative, non-fiction and poetry, that they will teach. These have been planned to ensure coverage of the key genres as well as build on skills from year to year. Units will take between two and four weeks to complete, and the outcome of each unit will be an Extended Write which will be used to assess the pupil's skills against the age-related expectations.
- All writing units are taught by using WAGOLs to ensure that pupils understand what success looks like in that particular genre.
- In KS2, grammar and punctuation is taught through Grammar Hammer low stakes testing and the daily English lesson. Within a writing unit, stand alone grammar and punctuation lessons are used to develop, embed and consolidate understanding. From Year Two to Year Six, spellings are taught through RWI spelling programme and this is timetabled each week from Y2 - Y6.
- We provide a wealth of enrichment including celebrating national events, running competitions and inviting authors/poets into school.

English Curriculum Impact

Pupils will

- be enthusiastic writers who enjoy showcasing their skills and developing knowledge.
- be able to discuss their ideas and edit their own work, understanding that this is a valuable part of the writing process.
- enjoy writing in other subjects as well as discretely within the English lessons and be able to use their skills in the wider context.

- have the necessary skills stamina and confidence to tackle the KS3 curriculum.