



English at Clifton Primary School

INTENT –

At Clifton Primary School, we have created a curriculum that encourages all children to become enthusiastic and engaged with all aspects of English. We work hard to provide our children with rich and varied learning opportunities that help them to become confident, enthusiastic and competent learners. We want our children to have a positive attitude towards communication and to be able to express their emotions and their ideas independently. Through our English curriculum, we strive to teach the children how important their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills will be in the real world. By giving this context to their learning, the children understand the value of English to them now, and in their futures.

IMPLEMENTATION and IMPACT -

At Clifton Primary School, we want our pupils to become capable readers, writers, spellers and speakers, who can transfer their English skills to other curriculum subjects and who are prepared for the next steps in their education. Our English lessons develop pupils' spoken language, reading, writing, grammar and vocabulary. English is often taught in a cross-curricular way, linking up with other areas of the curriculum.

- We teach our pupils to speak clearly, to convey their ideas fluently and confidently and to ask questions; the use of Talk for Writing activities across the school supports this. We know the value of excellent vocabulary and this is developed and practised across our curriculum constantly. We encourage pupils to express and discuss their ideas and to develop vocabulary that is more sophisticated. We deliver Word of the Day across all year groups to introduce a rich and varied vocabulary.
- Our pupils are encouraged to develop a love of reading. They read for pleasure and read widely through our reading scheme and school library. Class teachers read whole class texts and story time happens daily in all year groups. We deliver the Bug Club phonics programme in EYFS and Key stage 1 through our daily phonics sessions. Phonological awareness helps the development of reading by segmenting and blending sounds and the children are heard reading regularly, both individually and in groups. Our guided reading sessions cover a wide variety of both fiction, non-fiction and poetry books and help to advance the children's comprehension skills through questioning and discussion. Guided reading sessions take place from EYFS to Year 6. Parents are invited to attend our phonics and reading workshops where we give reading guidance and clear expectations about reading at home. We use an online reading programme called LEXIA to support and assess children's progress in reading also.

- We develop writing skills so that our children have the stamina and ability to write at the age expected standard or beyond. To support children in moving towards independent writing, we provide a wide range of activities including the use of film and imagery, music, ICT, modelled, shared and guided writing, peer assessment and discussion. We provide varied and exciting opportunities for writing for purpose and we encourage pupils to see themselves as authors and poets. We promote the importance of written work by providing a writing purpose and opportunities for children's writing to be read aloud and listened to by an audience. Handwriting sessions are regularly incorporated into the English lessons.

We have developed a range of extra activities which are used to promote English within the school including whole school Writing Challenges, World Book Day, whole school termly spelling challenge, reading challenges, family book and biscuits library openings, author visits, librarian story telling sessions and Fantastic Book Award launch and participation. We also run weekly Reading Buddies sessions with Y5, EYFS and Y1 children.

Strong links with the local high school and local libraries and authors ensures children are ready for their next step and for future learning.