

English Curriculum Intent Statement

Intent

At Ecton Village Primary Academy we believe that a high quality English curriculum should develop children's love of reading, writing and discussion. 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 to inspire children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening and who can use discussion to communicate and further their learning. We want all of our children to be 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. We believe that a secure basis in the English skills of reading, writing and speaking and listening 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

Through using high-quality fiction, non-fiction texts and poetry, children are immersed in vocabulary rich learning environments underpinned by a deep and broad study of literature. Using the CUSP curriculum for Reading and Writing and spelling, children are explicitly taught through cohesive learning approaches.

In addition to daily English lessons, children excel in early reading through the use of the RWI programme from Early Years and through KS1 and continue to develop a range of reading skills, as well as a love of reading through the use of the Accelerated Reader tool.

The CUSP literature spine is a suite of core texts that create a breadth of experiences, authors, texts and themes – it is diverse and relevant and is both a mirror and a window for our children. This is enhanced by the Pie Corbett reading spine – inspiring our children to read for pleasure; to become immersed in other lives.

To develop writing skills, children are taught to: identify context, purpose and audience; are immersed in high quality modelled writing; use worked examples to identify key conventions; record, edit and evaluate their writing.

A balanced and systematic approach to spelling covers the National Curriculum expectations but extends beyond this into etymology and morphology which ensures that our children have a deep and broad understanding of our language. Underpinned by a strong phonic grounding, children are taught pattern seeking and reasoning,

Handwriting is taught using the Kinetic Letters scheme of work and high expectations of presentation and accuracy of written work is embedded not only in English lessons, but across the curriculum.

Impact

At Ecton Village Primary Academy we develop reading and writing skills so that our children have the stamina and ability to write at the age expected standard and beyond. As a result we have a community of enthusiastic readers and writers who enjoy showcasing their developing English knowledge and skills. They are confident to take risks in their reading and writing, and love to discuss and share their ideas.

