

English Curriculum Intent, Implementation, and Impact Statement

Intent

At Inkpen Primary School, our intention is to cultivate a deep love for the English language and literature in every pupil. We strive to equip our students with the essential skills to communicate effectively, think critically, and engage with diverse texts and contexts. Our curriculum is designed to foster:

- **Literacy Development:** Building foundational skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening through systematic phonics instruction and exposure to a wide range of genres and text types through our varied Reading Spine.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Promoting an understanding of diverse cultures and perspectives through the exploration of British literature and global narratives, ensuring pupils appreciate the richness of the English language.
- **Creativity and Imagination:** Encouraging creativity through imaginative writing and other expressive forms, helping pupils to articulate their thoughts and emotions while pursuing their interests.
- **Critical Thinking:** Developing analytical skills by encouraging pupils to engage with texts critically, enabling them to make connections, draw inferences, and express reasoned opinions.

Implementation

To realise our intent, we implement a structured and engaging English curriculum that is characterised by:

- **Progressive Phonics Programme:** Utilising a systematic synthetic phonics approach to ensure all pupils can read and decode texts by the end of Year 2. The Monster Phonics scheme is introduced in Reception and continues into Year 1 and Year 2.
- **Explicit Spelling Instruction:** Following a robust spelling programme that builds directly from our phonics teaching, beginning in Year 3. High expectations are set for the application of both phonics and spelling in children's written work.

- **Adaptive Teaching Strategies:** Adapting pedagogical methods to cater for the diverse needs of all learners, employing scaffolding, modelling, and differentiated tasks to ensure engagement and success.
- **Reading for Pleasure:** Establishing a culture of reading by providing a rich selection of high-quality texts in the classroom and the school library, coupled with regular author visits and reading competitions, promoting enjoyment and enthusiasm for literature. Our Reading Spine includes a wide variety of texts from a range of cultures to engage children and allow them to develop their reading preferences.
- **Creative Writing Opportunities:** Regularly integrating opportunities for creative writing across the curriculum, including poetry, storytelling, and non-fiction writing, fostering pupils' ability to express themselves articulately. Our Reading Spine provides key texts for each year group as a driver for a wide range of writing opportunities.
- **Discrete Reading Teaching:** Using the VIPERS framework, our daily reading lessons ensure that children not only develop their reading fluency, but all areas of reading comprehension. This is then built on further through our high expectations of regular reading as part of home learning.
- **Cross-Curricular Links:** Making explicit connections between English and other subject areas, ensuring that pupils see the relevance of English skills in various contexts, thereby deepening their understanding and retention of knowledge.
- **Ongoing Assessment and Feedback:** Employing various formative and summative assessment strategies to measure pupils' understanding and progress, providing timely and constructive feedback to support growth.

Impact

The impact of our English curriculum can be evidenced through:

- **Pupil Achievement:** High standards in reading and writing as evidenced by internal and national assessments, with a significant percentage of pupils attaining or exceeding the expected standard by the end of Year 6.
- **Pupil Voice:** Pupils talk fondly of their love of reading and enjoy recommending books for their peers to read. Shared reading events with parents and peers are always well received.
- **Moderation and Book looks:** Leaders and teachers look at children's books to ensure that foundational knowledge and skills are evident. Moderation across classes ensure consistency throughout EYFS, KS1 and KS2.
- **Engagement and Motivation:** Increased pupil engagement, with a noticeable enthusiasm for reading and writing, measured through pupil voice surveys and participation rates in reading-related activities.

- **Critical Engagement:** Pupils demonstrating strong critical thinking skills, as observed during classroom discussions, written reflections, and responses to texts, indicating an ability to articulate thoughts and opinions effectively.
- **Broader Cultural Understanding:** A diverse curriculum that fosters empathy and understanding, evidenced by pupils' ability to discuss and appreciate texts from various cultures and contexts critically.
- **Lifelong Learning Skills:** Encouraging pupils to become independent learners who are equipped with the skills necessary for lifelong learning, including the ability to research, present, and discuss topics confidently.

In conclusion, the outstanding English provision at Inkpen Primary School reflects our commitment to delivering a high-quality education that ultimately nurtures well-rounded, literate individuals prepared for future challenges.