

Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery

English Policy

Rationale

We believe that developing good writing, reading, listening and speaking skills are integral for effective learning right across the curriculum. We believe that developing our children's love of the use of these skills through imaginative, structured, purposeful, well-resourced, cross curricular work tailored to the needs and learning styles of every child will provide a key resource for the rest of our children's lives. This policy should be used in conjunction with those on teaching and learning; marking; assessment and record keeping; homework; SEN and Disability and work with gifted and talented pupils.

Purpose

- To ensure that our children quickly develop self-confidence through an early emphasis on oracy (Talk for Writing and Helicopter Stories) that is then continued through drama, debate and wider opportunities as they progress through school both to support improved literacy and to develop articulate, confident citizens.
- To ensure that our children have a sufficiently strong foundation in literacy skills on completing Key Stage 1 to reach expected levels of attainment by the end of Key Stage 2.
- To ensure that literacy teaching and learning develops through our children's years in school in a logical and consistent way.
- To ensure that our approach to the learning of literacy provides clear paths for parental involvement and support (Home/School Sharing Book)
- To ensure that our library, ICT resources and our programme of trips, outings and extended school activities play their part in the raising of literacy standards for our children.

Broad Guidelines

1. Guided reading/writing will be used systematically with all age groups to help children learn to read/write for a purpose. Throughout school a wide range of reading/writing materials will be used to help children master a variety of decoding strategies.
2. Phonics will be taught as part of a structured and systematic way to support early progress in reading and writing, continuing with strategic teaching throughout KS1.
3. Working towards greater depth of different writing genres will be developed as set out in the National Strategy and using a variety of curriculum subjects. The love of writing for its own sake will be especially encouraged.
4. All teaching staff will promote fast, legible and, eventually joined, handwriting appropriate to purpose.
5. Children will be supported in understanding what constitutes different standards of work in literacy so that they can accurately assess their own work and play a part in setting their personal targets.
6. The school's emphasis on developing drama for learning will reinforce work developing reading, writing and research skills.
7. The subject leaders will monitor planning, delivery and assessment of English and support staff in increasing their skills and thus the quality of literacy work throughout the school.

Conclusion

At Wicklewood Primary School and Nursery we believe that developing good skills in speaking and listening, and in all round literacy, and enjoying using these skills is an essential part of learning to succeed in life generally.

This policy directly links / relates to the Teaching and Learning Policy and SEN Information Report.