

Chalton Lower School - English Curriculum Review



Intent: What we want to achieve:

We aim to promote the development of each child's reading, spoken and written language skills so that he/she is able to communicate and understand information, thoughts and feelings in a variety of situations with increasing independence. We believe that it is important for each child to develop a range of communication skills to enable him/her to live and work within the wider community. We will promote a positive attitude to the development of independent language skills through the involvement of the child in his/her own learning.

Implementation: How we will achieve this:

- A range of teaching methods will be used to fulfil the lesson objectives, and these will follow those outlined in the English National Curriculum. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, English will be delivered through the seven areas of learning with a particular focus on Communication and Language and Literacy.
- We will use the Twinkl Phonics programme to deliver discreet phonics sessions in the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One. These sessions will teach the children to be able to segment and blend words effectively. Where necessary this is continued into Key Stage Two.
- We will ensure that writing skills are developed across the curriculum and that children are given lots of opportunities for cross curricular writing. This may be linked to topic work or other curriculum areas such as Religious Education, Humanities or Science.
- We will ensure that the children have one to one reading sessions as well as guided reading sessions to develop their reading comprehension. The children are also encouraged to develop a love for reading through daily story time and stories shared in worship.
- As a school, we use the LetterJoin Handwriting scheme to help the children to develop fluent, clear and legible handwriting.
- We have developed our own activities for the teaching of Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar and these are taught within daily English lessons.
- We will ensure that staff training is carried out through school based whole staff training, attending appropriate courses and encouraging teachers to reflect on their own practice and share with their colleagues.
- Regular lesson observations in classrooms will monitor continuity and progression throughout the school.
- We will ensure that the subject is well resourced, and funding will be made available for replenishing books and quality writing materials.
- Information Technology will be used throughout the school to extend each child's understanding of written word. We will use a range of software available to support the English curriculum in the classroom. We will use the internet via laptops, desktop computers and iPads to enable the children to access further information and resources.
- The school library will be used to teach and support the development of library skills and an enjoyment of literature of all types.
- We will encourage parents and carers to hear their children read as often as possible at home and will also welcome parent helpers to come into school to support teachers within the classroom.
- English skills will be extended through out of school activities or homework set by each class teacher. Activities will be short, focused and valued in future lessons.
- Continuous assessment of progress in English is communicated to each child with each child being made aware of their current targets, using Assessment for Learning and Assessing Pupil Progress techniques.

Impact: The intended outcomes of the English curriculum:

- Pupils will achieve their maximum potential in English and will develop good speaking and listening, reading and writing skills.
- Pupils will enjoy their English lessons and will apply the skills that they have learnt in English within other subjects.
- Pupils will work hard, strive to meet challenges and will become resilient learners.
- Pupils will learn to work independently or will contribute effectively to partner or group work.
- Pupils will be encouraged to develop a love of reading and to read for enjoyment.
- Pupils will develop their ever-growing vocabulary, through an interest in words and their meanings.
- Pupils will learn to write in a variety of styles and will be able to apply characteristic features of texts to their own writing.
- Pupils will develop a technical vocabulary with understanding of grammatical terminology and learn how to apply grammatical terminology in their own writing.
- Pupils will have the opportunity to write for pleasure by exploring and developing their own ideas.
- Pupils will be given opportunities to develop and learn new speaking and listening skills in formal and informal settings, both in and outside of the classroom.