

Subject statement for English

Subject:	English
Aims:	<p>At Duncombe, the aim of our English curriculum is to ensure that pupils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are confident readers with a love of reading, equipped with the skills to predict, infer and retrieve information from a range of diverse and challenging texts, including those which represent our rich and varied literary heritage. - can select texts for information, or that match their interests, independently. - have many opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills across all subjects, so that they are confident, articulate speakers and can present information clearly. - encounter a wide range of vocabulary across the curriculum, retain it and learn to use it in a range of contexts. - acquire a deep understanding of English grammatical conventions and can apply them when speaking or writing. - are given the opportunity to create written pieces, varying in genre, based on a range of high-quality texts, that have been selected to motivate and engage even reluctant writers. - develop their transcription skills year on year, until they are able to write clearly and at length with accurate use of punctuation, spelling and grammar.
Progression ensuring skills and knowledge:	<p>Children are taught the knowledge, skills and understanding set out in the National Curriculum.</p> <p>Reading In EYFS and KS1, children will be taught to read through high-quality systematic synthetic phonics sessions. By the spring term of Year 2, children will be reading fluently and able to access longer, high quality texts in whole class guided reading lessons. From Year 2, and throughout Key Stage 2, children will develop comprehension of texts in whole class guided reading lessons, where themes, vocabulary and sentence structure in texts becoming increasingly complex.</p> <p>Writing In EYFS, children will develop their gross and fine motor skills to prepare for writing, through opportunities in the learning environment that encourage independent mark making and early writing. Children are taught letter formation discretely in their phonics lessons. In Key Stage 1, children continue to learn spelling and grammar discretely in their phonics lessons. English lessons use high-quality texts as a stimulus for writing for different audiences and purposes. By Key Stage 2, children will have developed their writing skills so that they are able to write longer pieces with accurate spelling and simple grammar. In Key Stage 2, they will learn to manipulate vocabulary and grammar to suit a wider range of audiences and purposes. They will also develop their ability to proofread and edit their work independently.</p> <p>Speaking and listening Children will be given regular opportunities in English lessons to share their ideas, present to others and perform. In EYFS, children will be expected to listen and respond appropriately and ask questions. In Key Stage 1, children will begin to share their own ideas and give opinions. In Key Stage 2, children will be able to present to a larger group and later to the whole class, clearly and articulately, and develop their ability to debate and speculate. They will learn to use standard English appropriately and use the correct register for their audience. Throughout their time at Duncombe, children will learn a range of poetry off by heart.</p>
Learning Experiences:	<p>Through the English curriculum, children will have the opportunity to learn about issues that affect the wider world. Drama workshops, theatre experiences and visiting authors give children to opportunity to bring reading to life, and increase their cultural capital. They will be offered unique learning experiences throughout their time at Duncombe, in the form of trips and visits, that they will have the opportunity to write about and discuss both in their English lessons and in other lessons where they will apply their learning.</p>
Digital Discovery links:	<p>At Duncombe, children will use technology to inform, present and communicate. They will have regular opportunities to type up and publish their work, using Microsoft Word or Google Docs, following writing units. They will learn to use technological tools such as spellcheck, grammar checking and online dictionaries and thesauruses to help</p>

	<p>them to independently proofread their writing. Children will use Google Classroom applications to communicate and present writing to their teachers and peers. Children will be given the opportunity to use technology for research purposes, including reading relevant information and using this information to inform their non-fiction writing projects.</p> <p>In certain units, children will be given to the opportunity to present information using video technology, such as poetry performances and book reviews. They will be encouraged to speak clearly and think about purpose and audience.</p>
<p>Environmental Issues links:</p>	<p>Every child at Duncombe will study an environmental issue each year in their English units and think about the impact they have on the wider world and how they can make a positive contribution. This will be taught through linked texts and children will have the opportunity to learn about a range of issues that progress in complexity. They will produce a final piece of writing or presentation which has the purpose of informing others about environmental concerns.</p>
<p>Characteristics of Effective Learning:</p>	<p>Engagement: children will demonstrate curiosity and empathy about characters and themes through drama activities and class discussions. They will be encouraged to read for pleasure and select books that match their own interests and motivations. Children will be encouraged to commit writing to paper without fear of making mistakes and will learn to proofread and edit their work to improve it later.</p> <p>Motivation: Children will learn to sustain concentration in order to write at length. They will also develop the stamina to read longer texts for increasingly longer periods of time. They will take care over their work, and demonstrate this through careful written presentation. At the end of writing units, they will have the opportunity to publish or present their work to others and take pride in their accomplishment.</p> <p>Thinking: Children will develop their critical thinking skills through reading, discussion and debate. They will use a range of sources to research information and learn to evaluate these sources and select information appropriately. Children will be taught to plan their writing by considering its aim and intended outcome. They will use planning opportunities to develop their ideas and reflect on structure and language choices. Children will be encouraged to use their own ideas and become creative writers. They will be given the opportunity to evaluate their own work and that of others.</p>
<p>Word power and communication:</p>	<p>We know that one of the keys to addressing disadvantage and ensuring success is a developing a wide vocabulary in our pupils, and our English curriculum is the cornerstone of this aim. The English curriculum at Duncombe is shaped by high-quality texts and cross curricular links. Creating a vocabulary rich environment, where children are given repeated opportunities to use and apply new words in context, is essential for retention. Vocabulary is explicitly taught in reading lessons and children are encouraged to discover the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary to aid comprehension. The core texts in the curriculum have been selected for having diverse content and themes, which in turn leads to varied class discussions and written content allowing children to acquire a rich and varied vocabulary.</p>
<p>Resources used:</p>	<p>Read, Write, Inc. phonics books and materials Core texts for each year group Dictionaries and thesauruses throughout KS2 Individual handwriting books and whole school handwriting scheme Online resources: Accelerated Reader, SATs Companion. Children are encouraged to take out books weekly from our well-stocked library.</p>