

English Vision Statement

What are we trying to achieve in English?

At Purlwell, it is our intent that our English curriculum should develop a life-long love of reading, writing and communication. We aim to provide an environment which inspires and supports our children's development, as readers, writers, speakers and listeners. We strive to ensure that all children have the opportunity to explore a wide range of texts, genres and writing styles to provide a secure foundation of a child's understanding of our written language systems. We aim to provide opportunities for children to develop English skills in all areas of learning so children can apply their skills across the curriculum. As the English Curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils become fluent in the fundamentals of reading, writing, spelling and grammar, we aim to offer an interesting and varied breadth of study of these skills throughout each year group to keep children engaged and motivated. In English, and throughout the curriculum, pupils develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. These skills enable children to express themselves and communicate in general and to make sense of the whole school curriculum.

How is the subject taught?

English is taught in daily English lessons across all year groups. Within these lessons, children are taught a breath of new vocabulary in context and taught how to apply this effectively. English lessons provide a balance of Speaking, Listening and writing opportunities based from a topic based text which carefully planned for by teachers with the support of training from CLPE Power of Reading. Texts and genres of writing are carefully planned across our two year cycle of long term planning with objectives taken from the National Curriculum(KS1) and Development Matters(EYFS) We select high quality texts which represent a breathe of cultures and communities, with high quality illustrations and rich vocabulary.

In addition to daily English lessons our children benefit from a structured phonics programme. Little Wandle is taught from Nursery to Year 2 and shared reading sessions begin in Reception. Nursery children have 'key vocabulary cards' which are practiced at home and school to develop their first 100 word vocabulary. As children transition to Reception they have 'phonics word cards' to support their current phase of phonics teaching and learning. Children identified as needing to secure their use and understanding of the first 100 words will continue to be supported in using these, alongside 'phonics word cards' until this vocabulary is embedded.

During reading practice sessions, children participate in 3 shared reading sessions with an adult before then taking this book home to practice at home. In addition to this, a second banded text to support their reading practice. Children also choose books from our well stocked library to take home to read for pleasure. We provide inspiring opportunities for children to develop their love of reading through book fairs and World Book Day events and encourage parental engagement through the FRED reading programme which we have modified to meet the needs of our families.

To further support pupil's and their progress, teachers use to 'Launchpad for Literacy' to identify gaps in pupil's learning and use this to inform the planning of activities to support children in achieving their next steps.

Impact

The impact on our children is clear: progress, motivated and engaged pupils with a love for reading. Children become more confident, resilient, fluent readers and writers who are able to apply their skills to a range of writing genres and subjects across the curriculum. Children become confident and fluent speakers who are able to express opinions and understand and respect the viewpoints of others.

Parents are well informed and are able to play an active role in their child's progression. All children make progress at Purlwell and have a secure foundation for when they leave for Junior school and beyond.

Values

Communication/explanation and questioning
Resilience
Independence
Curiosity
Confidence
Challenge
Persistence

SMSC / PSHE / British Values

Through the English curriculum, our pupils will develop skills in other areas, such as Cultural awareness;

- Celebrating and respecting diversity in local, national and global communities.
- Recognising the things people and communities share in common
- Willingness to participate in a variety of social settings, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively

Moral understanding

- Develop an understanding of right and wrong and the consequences of their behaviour and actions.

Social skills;

- Engaging with British values (mutual respect and rule of law) and positively contributing to life in modern Britain
- Understanding rights and responsibilities as community members.

Spiritual awareness;

- Reflecting on experiences.
- Have a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them.