



Pilgrims' Way Primary School

English Policy

Reviewed: Autumn Term 2021/22

Next Review Date: Autumn 2022/23

Intent

Pilgrims' Way aim to develop pupils' abilities within an integrated programme of Speaking & Listening, Reading & Writing. Pupils will be given opportunities to develop their use, knowledge and understanding of spoken and written English within a broad and balanced curriculum, with opportunities to consolidate and reinforce taught English skills.

Pupils at Pilgrims' Way Primary School will leave Year 6:

- reading and writing with confidence, fluency and understanding, using a range of independent strategies to self-monitor and correct;
- with a love of reading and a desire to read for enjoyment;
- with an interest in words and their meanings; developing a growing vocabulary in spoken and written forms;
- understanding a range of text types, media types and genres;
- able to write in a variety of styles and forms appropriate to the situation;
- using their developing imagination, inventiveness and critical awareness;
- having a suitable technical vocabulary to articulate their responses.

Role of the English Team

The English Team is responsible for improving the standards of teaching and learning in English through effective monitoring and evaluating. This will be achieved through:

- Teaching & Learning Conferences
- the quality of the Learning Environment,
- taking the lead in policy development
- monitoring of books and plans
- analysis of data
- auditing and supporting colleagues in their CPD
- purchasing and organising resources
- keeping up to date with recent English developments

Speaking and Listening

As a school we identify opportunities throughout the curriculum to develop Speaking and Listening to improve children's vocabulary. Every year we have an Oracy Focus Week in Term 1 – for 2020-2021 we will have this in Term 3.

Phonics/Spellings

EYFS & KS1 follow the Letters and Sounds Programme which is taught daily (whole class or sets) according to ability. Phonic Assessments take place at the end of every term and data is reviewed termly. Year 1 complete the statutory Phonics Check in June.

Children who have not passed their phonics screening are given extra teaching into Key Stage 2 and Years 3-6 are given whole class phonics consolidation daily as needed.

Spelling curriculum is supported by the Bellenden scheme of work from Year 2. Weekly spellings tests are set if and when appropriate. Dictation is used to consolidate spelling rules and classes are taught spelling rules/etymology and techniques for retrieval.

Reading

Reception: Start on the Pink box and continue through the coloured boxes until blue level is achieved, assessed using Benchmark Assessment. Children are then assessed using Star Test to start Accelerated Reader programme.

Once on Accelerated Reader, children complete the Star Test 4 times a year – Start of Term 1, end of Term 2 and End of Term 4 and Term 6. Reports are regularly reviewed by class teachers and reading levels adjusted.

Reading at home

If a child does not meet minimum requirements (see Homework Policy) and improvements not seen using classroom strategies e.g. workroom, informal meeting with parents then

1. the class teacher will text message or speak to parents in a more formal environment
2. Phone call or formal meeting with parent by class teacher and Team Leader
3. Formal letter sent by English Subject Lead inviting parents in for a meeting to discuss support and/or alternative provision.

Guided Reading

At Pilgrims' Way we take whole class approach to reading where appropriate focusing on the teaching and comprehension of reading through objective lead lessons. In addition, EYFS and Year 1 work through ability group, objective led sessions.

Handwriting

We use cursive script. Please also refer to the Presentation and Handwriting Policy.

Writing

As many opportunities as possible are given for the children to write across the curriculum. In EYFS children use mark making books and from KS1 children use their writing or topic books. Writing is a process that should involve drafting and editing to produce a finished piece of work. Please refer to the Marking/Feedback Policy.

Expectations for End of Year

	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Letters and Sounds	Phase 4 completed	Phase 5 & Bellenden Spelling scheme	Phase 6 & Bellenden Spelling scheme	Bellenden Spelling scheme	Bellenden Spelling scheme	Bellenden Spelling scheme	Bellenden Spelling scheme

Written and reviewed by The English Team