



Newbold School

English with a focus on Writing

CURRICULUM (Intent):

Our intention for English at Newbold School is that good literature should be placed firmly at the centre of the English curriculum as an example of good writing. We want our children to read and enjoy quality books, magazines and articles; learn how to write imaginative, engaging pieces and also learn how to communicate effectively and clearly through their writing, whether in fiction or non-fiction genres.

We want our children to digest and discuss their reading materials with confidence, forming their own opinions; evaluate and edit their writing and positively critique the writing of their peers. We would like them to question and fact check information they read, understanding that perspective and persuasion may present different truths. And we want them to do all of this with a sense of growth mindset that will help them to achieve, building on learning gained through mistakes as well as successes.

TEACHING (Implementation):

Our English teaching follows the National Curriculum guidelines, from which quality texts will be chosen to augment and embed our learning, support our values and inspire our learners.

From nursery (F1) upwards, children will be taught phonics from the Jolly Phonics scheme as the underpinning foundation for their reading.

Our children will be given the opportunity to read habitually for pleasure from their own choice of books in our class libraries. They will also benefit from hearing staff, volunteers or guests reading to them from quality texts, so that expressive reading is suitably modelled for them. Children who are not yet fluent will read regularly with an adult, according to their needs, and we will encourage parents/carers to read with

their children at home. Children who are behind in their reading or who have English as an additional language, will receive targeted support to help close gaps and to build up their phonological awareness.

Children will explore the various genres of writing in KS1 and KS2. They will be provided with various stimuli (e.g. pictures, film clips, objects etc...) to help develop their imagination in story writing. The editing process will focus on the structure of their writing, vocabulary choices, spelling, punctuation, grammar and handwriting - although not all at once. Subject-specific (academic) vocabulary will be taught for each subject (e.g. history, geography, science etc...) so that the children will be able to express their ideas clearly, using the correct terminology. To this end, vocabulary walls will be created for each class so that children can constantly refer to them when writing.

ACHIEVEMENT (Impact):

When our children leave us, there should be clear progress in both reading and writing across the years. Our children should be confident readers and writers with ideas and thoughts of their own. They should be able to read for pleasure but be able to scrutinise and evaluate what they have read, evidence-based on the content of each text. They should be able to write confidently, legibly and imaginatively across various genres. They should also be able to write academically, using the correct terminology for each subject.

Basically, our children should have laid strong foundation blocks at Newbold School and be ready to build on these throughout their secondary education.