

Policy for Literacy

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To be reviewed each year.



Ethos

At West Road Primary School we believe that; Literacy is a fundamental life skill. Literacy develops children's ability to listen, speak, read and write for a wide range of purposes. Children are enabled to express themselves creatively and imaginatively as they become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry and drama, as well as of non-fiction and media texts. Children gain an understanding of how language works by looking at its patterns, structures and origins. Children use their knowledge, skills and understanding in speaking and writing across a range of different situations.

Child-centred: In EYFS children receive daily phonics session and a daily reading session. As well as a range of planned structured play situations where there is plenty of scope for exploration and opportunities for reading, writing and spelling In Key Stages 1 and 2 we implement daily literacy sessions, We follow the No nonsense Spelling Programme for spelling implementing both discreet and whole class spelling and SPAG sessions. As well as discreet phonic sessions and spelling Intervention. We teach from the year group expectations in Reading, Writing and SPAG. Children experience a variety of activities including: interactive grammar (Kung Fu), speaking and listening sessions (THRIVE, Circle Time) spelling games, reading and writing opportunities daily, focused word and sentence activities, daily 5 grammar and spelling tasks, comprehension tasks from Cracking the Code, daily guided reading groups, reading daily with vulnerable individuals and independent work and drama activities. Furthermore, our Literacy sessions incorporate a wealth of skills across the curriculum – thus enhancing opportunities to read and write in all subjects – linked to our Cornerstone Thematic Planning. Children have a wide range of abilities, and we seek to provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child and writing and reading at Mastery Level. A great level of independence is embraced and developed, and we pride ourselves on promoting great learning behaviour.

Involves good practical experience: Spelling and grammar activities are embedded throughout the Curriculum. We employ the strategies of 'Talk for Writing' to inspire our children to want to write, eg through the use of role play across Foundation, KS1. Children have the opportunity to experience a wide range of texts, and to support their work with a variety of resources, such as dictionaries, thesauruses and individual word banks, spelling books, word mats, spelling prompts, grammar displays. Children use ICT in Literacy lessons where it enhances their learning, as in drafting their work, editing and in using multimedia to study how words and images are combined to convey meaning. Wherever possible we encourage children to use and apply their learning in other areas of the Curriculum. Kung-Fu Punctuation and interactive spelling and grammar teaching play a key role to supporting the children's understanding of SPAG. Classroom displays also provide a sound base for learning. Furthermore, incorporating Literacy across the curriculum is paramount. Literacy throughout school is a focus and the teachers promote their enthusiasm for reading/writing/grammar and spelling through: modelling reading for enjoyment, comprehensions linked to themes/Cracking the Code, Reader Leader Whole School Challenge, guided reading, reading assemblies and book character days and events, all staff modelling a good standard of English, interactive grammar games using ICT and spelling games in class using New Curriculum List Words from each year group.

In the Foundation Stage language and literacy development are incorporated in all areas of learning. Opportunities are provided for children to communicate thoughts, ideas and feelings. Purposeful role-play is used to develop language and imagination. Children are given opportunities to share and enjoy a wide range of rhymes, songs, poetry and books. An environment is provided which reflects the importance of language through signs, notices and books. Children are provided with opportunities to see adults writing and they can experiment with writing themselves.

Inspires thinking and learning: They learn how to become independent learners. We take them on their own learning journey.

What we teach

West Road Primary School, follow the long term plan for Literacy Genre and adapt it to link with Cornestones' Theme Planning. We use the No nonsense Spelling Programme, Rising Stars and other SPAG resources to assess SPAG and link reading materials to year group expectations. As well as the above, we teach the National expectations in writing, reading, spelling and grammar outlined by the LEA.

How we teach

Literacy is taught in many ways that meet the needs of the individual learners and their learning journey. When appropriate, the use of ICT, books and other media resources help to support their understanding. Learning Journey Ambassadors, from each class, will become the pupils' voice and promote the enjoyment and independence of this subject.

How we assess

Teachers assess children's work in Literacy by making informed judgements as we observe them during lessons. At the end of each theme, each child's assessment will be monitored/ tracked on O'Track and Classtrack (Our whole school assessment tool) for analysis.

How we monitor

Learning Journey Ambassadors determine what the children wish to learn about and promote the enjoyment of the subject through discussion, assemblies and questionnaires. Virtual Learning journeys and planning to be annotated by all staff involved and reviewed regularly and put on our site (cloud). Collection of work to show progression across the board and displays. Learning walks, reading, writing, spelling and grammar data - tracker systems, monitors individual progress.

Resources

There are books for enjoyment, reading scheme books, guided reading books in the library. EYFS have their own resource area. Each classroom has a wealth of resources and information linked to Literacy.

Health & Safety

Staff should refer to the 'Health and Safety' policy and the BE safe

Refer to other policies already written to cover Literacy linked across the curriculum like: History, Science and Geography.

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