

Our Curriculum

English - Speaking and listening, reading and writing are key skills that are developed across the curriculum.

Reading Our aim is for all of the children in our school to become fluent and confident readers. In Early Years, children begin to learn how to segment and blend sounds through a structured programme for synthetic phonics called 'Letters and Sounds'. This programme continues into Key Stage 1. In each year group, guided reading sessions give children the opportunity to discuss the features of different text types and to develop their sight vocabulary. The guided reading scheme for KS1 is called 'Lighthouse Reading Scheme'. We have a wide selection of books for the children to take home and we strongly encourage parents to listen to their children read aloud every evening. Our reading books are graded for readability and level of challenge using the Book Bands model and include titles from 'Pearson Bug Club', 'Collins Big Cat' and 'Oxford Reading Tree' phonics. Teachers in KS1 use online 'PhonicsPlay' resources as appropriate to support the delivery of our phonics and spelling curriculum.

Writing Children are given opportunities to write for a range of purposes including stories, recounts, instructions, poems, news, letters and reports. We have adopted Pie Corbett's Talk for Writing strategy. This has been very successful in enabling the children to acquire a bank of story language that they build on as they move through the school. We provide many opportunities for the children to develop their ideas for writing through discussion and role play. Next step marking helps the children to focus on areas for improvement. Spelling, grammar and punctuation are taught through discrete lessons and within English sessions. The teaching of handwriting is linked to phonics and spelling where appropriate. Children are taught how to form letters correctly and then progress to developing a joined writing style.