

Rationale

English

2021-2022

Retention of powerful knowledge and vocabulary:

At The Wainfleet Magdalen Church of England/Methodist Primary School, we believe that our children are entitled to a language rich English curriculum where they appreciate the power of both the spoken and written word.

We recognise the foundations for teaching the English National Curriculum begins in the Early Years with the development of a high-quality programme planned within Communication, Language and Literacy. Many children enter our school with very poor language skills, therefore, teaching children to communicate is vital from the very early stages of their journey with us and continues throughout their journey with us at primary school.

In addition to the daily teaching of phonics, we begin to develop our children's early comprehension skills through the use of quality core texts read in our English lessons and in the non-fiction texts that are used across the wider curriculum. From EYFS to Year 6, our children engage in guided reading sessions which enable the children to practise their decoding skills, as well as develop their comprehension skills, building upon skills previously learnt and enabling the knowledge to 'stick'.

As an inclusive school, our curriculum recognises the varied needs of our children and allows every child to maximise their learning potential and achieve in English. Our aim is to prepare them for the application of English skills across the whole curriculum and life beyond education.

Application of powerful knowledge and vocabulary:

Reading together with the acquisition of new vocabulary and grammar is highly progressive, requiring children to continually build upon prior knowledge.

Our curriculum enables children to apply knowledge in different ways. Learning is not limited to English lessons – opportunities to acquire new (subject specific) vocabulary; reading a range of

non-fiction texts and writing for different purposes is provided throughout the wider curriculum. Children are encouraged to articulate their ideas across all subjects, they are required to give their answers in class as full sentences, providing constant opportunities to apply their vocabulary and knowledge in a range of contexts.

Inspiration:

Children are constantly encouraged to challenge themselves in supportive class environments. They are taught subject specific vocabulary and are encouraged to use this when talking in class with both adults and peers; they are encouraged to discuss their ideas during lessons and provide reasons for their thoughts and ideas - for example hypothesizing about why something is happening in science.

Children are taught the importance of reading, writing and speaking; not just within the school environment but beyond and how this affects their daily lives opening opportunities for them in later life. Author visits are just one way in which children are inspired to achieve.

Success for Everyone:

Success in English empowers children. It enables them to be confident and have the ability to live independently.

At the Magdalen Church of England/Methodist Primary School we believe it is the right of every child to leave our school with strong foundations in reading, writing and speaking in order to provide them with the knowledge that will help them succeed in life and be the best that they can be.