



## Shinfield St Mary's C of E Junior School

### English Policy

#### Our Vision

Jesus said 'As I have loved you, so you must love one another.' John 13, 34

This commandment guides us all to love and value all members of the school community. Children and adults from all backgrounds will thrive in the belief that diversity is to be celebrated and respected. As well as loving those who are present in our lives they will interact in the world in ways that reflect their responsibilities as global citizens and custodians of our planet. Our children will make an impact in the wider world which will benefit future generations

Love is Patient

Love is Kind

Love is Honest

It trusts, hopes, perseveres and protects.

#### Document History:

Version	Issue Date	Comments
1.0	April 2013	
	Reviewed October 15	
2.0	Reviewed and updated 2018	
3.0	Reviewed and updated November 2020	Voice 21 added in, and information about technology.
4.0	Reviewed and updated November 2022	

5.0	Reviewed and updated February 2025	<p>Edited grammar and punctuation mistakes and typos.</p> <p>Changed 'English team' to English leader.</p> <p>Added in our use of Jane Considine and the mixture of methods in Year 6.</p> <p>Added in our use of Master Readers.</p>
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In line with our Vision we seek to develop a love of learning which encompasses academic, moral, social, physical and spiritual development.

Through our curriculum and educational experiences offered to the children we endeavour to prepare our children to thrive on the changing world in which we live.

## Aims

The aims of English are:

- To enable children to become effective speakers and listeners in a range of contexts.
- To develop confident, independent readers through an appropriate focus on word, sentence and text-level knowledge;
- To encourage children to become enthusiastic and reflective readers.
- To help children enjoy writing and recognize its value;
- To enable children to write with accuracy and meaning in narrative and non-fiction;
- To increase the children's ability to use planning, drafting and editing to improve their work.
- To encourage all children to meet their potential and become independent learners.

## Teaching and learning style

At Shinfield St Mary's Junior School we use a variety of teaching and learning styles in English lessons. Our principal aim is to develop children's knowledge, skills, and understanding in English. They have the opportunity to experience a wide range of texts and use a variety of resources to support their work. Children use ICT in English lessons where it enhances their learning. Wherever possible we plan opportunities for children to use and apply their learning in other curriculum areas.

At the moment, our school follows the Jane Considine 'The Write Stuff' programme through years 3-5 with year 6 using a mix of the scheme and book-based planning to meet the demands of year 6 writing expectations.

Spelling and phonics are taught systematically throughout Upper and Lower KS2 using the Little Wandle Rapid Catchup scheme.

Reading is taught in both lower and upper KS2 through the scheme 'Master Readers' so that the children become experts in the use of the mastery approach with the belief that every child can meet National curriculum expectations.

## Meeting The Needs of All Pupils

For a number of pupils at Shinfield St Mary's Junior School, English is an additional language. For those children, support staff work closely with class teachers to support their learning.

At Shinfield St Mary's Junior School, a strong emphasis is placed upon the development of oral language skills (the school is a member of the Voice21 project) and the employment of interactive teaching methods.

Provision of suitable learning opportunities for all children including those with Special Educational Needs are provided by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this through a range of teaching strategies, including LSA support for groups or individuals and making adjustments to the learning environment.

The most able pupils are identified in each class and experiences are planned to challenge them and extend and deepen their learning.

## English curriculum planning

Curriculum planning in English is informed by the New Curriculum.

Plans define what is taught and ensure progression and an appropriate balance and distribution of work across each term.

## English Across the Curriculum

The principle aims of language teaching at Shinfield St Mary's Junior School is to enable pupils to understand and make progress in all subjects. We maximise every opportunity to reinforce children's language competency whilst teaching other curriculum areas. The skills that children develop in English are linked to, and applied in, every subject of our curriculum. The children's skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening enable them to communicate and express themselves in all aspects of their work in school.

## Teaching English to children with special needs

English teaching and planning takes into account the needs of all groups of pupils including those of pupils with special educational needs.

Interventions and Individual Learning Plans are provided to meet the needs of pupils who may need help with a specific difficulty. Specialist teachers from external agencies also provide support when necessary for pupils with severe and persistent difficulties in literacy.

Volunteers support pupils to develop and practice their reading skills.

## Assessment

See Assessment Policy

## Resources

There are a range of resources to support the teaching of English throughout the school. All classrooms have dictionaries and thesauruses and a range of other support materials. Children have access to the internet and each class has an interactive whiteboard to support teaching and learning.

Each pupil in Year 5 and 6 has access to an iPad and Apple crayon; pupils in Year 3 and 4 share the use of 60 iPads and there are 30 laptops that are available to be used by the whole school to support teaching and learning in English.

Accelerated Reader is a reading program used throughout the school that supports teachers to monitor the progress that pupils make in Reading and set appropriate targets.

The library contains a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to support children's individual research and reading. All reading books are levelled in accordance with ZPD grades.

## Monitoring and review

Monitoring the standards and the quality of teaching in English is the responsibility of the English subject leader. The work of the subject leader also involves supporting colleagues to teach English, being informed about current developments in the subject, providing training, attending courses and providing a strategic lead and direction for the subject in school. The subject leader presents reports to governors, which includes discussion of the strengths and weaknesses in the subject, data analysis and quality of teaching. This Policy is carried out within the context and spirit of the school's Vision Statement. It supports and reinforces the aims of our School, valuing all children equally and the individual gifts they and all other members of our community bring to school life at Shinfield St Mary's.