



English

Here at St Paul's Catholic Primary we are committed to providing the children with a high-quality education in English. We recognize that English has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. Our core aim is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment.

We teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. We recognize that all the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society.

We provide an English curriculum which meets the requirements of the new Primary Curriculum. In year groups 2 and 6 we are required to deliver elements of the new curriculum alongside the current curriculum, in line with statutory requirements. From September 2015 Years 2 and 6 will transfer completely to the new curriculum.

Children receive the curriculum appropriate to age related expectations. Children who have difficulty accessing their year group's curriculum are supported by modifications to the provision, whilst ensuring that they continue to follow age related expectations. Intervention programmes run every afternoon. These are tailored to need and are reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team on a termly basis.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas

- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

Phonics:

All children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One receive daily phonics teaching. Our phonics programme is consistent with Letters and Sounds. Phonics teaching is delivered in phase groups, ensuring that each child receives the phonic phase appropriate to individual ability.

Reading:

Our home/school readers are levelled into colour book bands. When assessed as ready, children will receive a reading book from the appropriate colour book band to read at home and at school. Children will also be invited to bring home a school/class library book. This is part of our commitment to encourage children to read for pleasure and to promote wider reading as the new National Curriculum requires.

Assessment:

Assessment is an integral part of the curriculum. Teachers are required to make day to day judgements about progress to ensure that lessons continue to meet every child's needs. In addition to these ongoing assessments children's writing is formally assessed twice a term over the course of the six term year. Teacher assessments are moderated.

Statutory assessments in reading and writing take place for children at the end of Key Stage 1 and 2. Formal tests are used in all other year groups once a year.

Children's progress is reported formally to parents three times a year, either during parent/teacher consultations or in end of year reports. Teachers report on what a child has learned and understood and inform parents as to whether a child is working towards, at or beyond age related expectations.