

Intent

English and the teaching of English is the foundation of our curriculum at Culcheth Community Primary School. Our curriculum is ambitious for all pupils and our main aim is to ensure every single child achieves well in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

English is embedded within all our lessons and we strive for a high level of English for all. Through using high-quality texts, immersing children in vocabulary rich learning environments and ensuring new curriculum expectations and the progression of skills are met, the children at Culcheth Community Primary School are exposed to a language heavy, creative and continuous English curriculum which develops a love of reading, creative writing and purposeful speaking and listening.

We work closely with our Specialist English Consultant to ensure that we deliver a broad and balanced curriculum which is carefully planned and sequenced across the different year groups. We use a wide variety of quality texts and resources to motivate and inspire our children throughout each writing unit. We also provide a wealth of enrichment opportunities including giving each class the opportunity to enter creative writing competitions.

At Culcheth Community Primary School we develop writing skills so that our pupils have the stamina and ability to write at the age expected standard or above. To support children in moving towards independent writing we provide a wide range of activities including use of film and imagery, modelled, shared and guided writing, peer editing and discussion. We use talk for writing in Foundation and Key Stage One to encourage pupils to express their ideas, exchange ideas and to develop more sophisticated vocabulary. We provide opportunities for writing for purpose and we encourage pupils to see themselves as authors. We promote the status of written work by providing opportunities for children's writing to be published and read by real audiences.

The Penpals Handwriting resource is used to teach handwriting across the whole school. This is then reinforced throughout all lessons which involve writing. The purchase of a cursive font ensures that all of our displays and typed writing is joined correctly and teachers ensure that they model correct handwriting during all lessons and in their marking of pupils work.

Our Read Write Inc. Spelling programme is based on proven strategies of teacher modelling followed by partner work, to embed learning. The programme covers all the National Curriculum word structures and spelling requirements. It is built around a series of short, progressive activities and it uses partner work to help children learn effectively and recall what they have learnt.

National Curriculum English Programmes of Study:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study>

Implementation

At Culcheth Community Primary we ensure that the teaching of writing is purposeful, robust and shows clear progression for all children. In line with the National Curriculum, each year group teaches the grammar, punctuation and spelling objectives required for that age group. Teachers also embed writing skills throughout the year through the use of cross-curricular writing opportunities. We use the Teacher's PAL (an online planning and assessment for learning toolkit) throughout the school which provides teachers with:

- A set of unique objectives which simplify the challenge of differentiation and accelerate progress
- Small steps in teaching and learning so that pupils and teachers experience success
- An online system which makes planning and on-going assessment meaningful
- An opportunity to see progress throughout the year towards end-of-year/Key Stage expectations
- Exemplar texts (WAGOLLS) which save time, support subject knowledge and demonstrate progression
- A teacher's file which supports subject knowledge and provides alternative ways to plan and assess

Writing is taught through the use of a high quality text, which exposes the children to inference, high-level vocabulary as well as a range of punctuation and characterisation. Each text is purposefully selected in order to promote a love of reading, engagement and high quality writing from each child.

Impact

Impact is measured regularly across the whole school through the use of classroom observations, book monitoring, pupil questionnaires, data analysis and regular pupil progress meetings. Our English consultant regularly supports our moderation of writing in addition to moderation that takes place across local schools.

Regular assessment opportunities ensure that any gaps in achievement are identified early and appropriate support is planned to give pupils the best possible chance of success.

The impact on our children is clear: progress, sustained learning and transferrable skills. As a result we have a community of enthusiastic readers

and writers who are confident to take risks in their reading and writing, and love to discuss and share their ideas.

As all aspects of English are an integral part of the curriculum, cross curricular writing standards have also improved and skills taught in the English lesson are transferred into other subjects; this shows consolidation of skills and a deeper understanding of how and when to use specific grammar, punctuation and grammar objectives.

Our end of Key Stage 1 Writing data

Our school 2018	NA 2018	Our school 2019	NA 2019
70% (Externally moderated by LA)	70%	74.2%	69.2%

Our end of Key Stage 2 Writing data

Our school 2018	NA 2018	Our school 2019	NA 2019
86.7%	79%	96.3% (Externally moderated by LA)	78%