

Curriculum Intent KS1 English

St. Veronica's R.C. Primary School understands the need for all pupils to develop their English ability as an essential component of all subjects and as a subject in its own right. A good understanding of English knowledge and conceptual understanding helps to support the work that pupils do across the curriculum.

Throughout their learning journey, students study a range of fiction and non-fiction from a vast variety of genres and time-periods, in order to enhance our pupils' cultural capital. Students then use their acquired love of reading as a stimulus and endeavour to emulate the writer's craft within their own written pieces; this approach seamlessly allows both reading and writing skills to be exercised regularly and interwoven throughout.

In the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, this learning journey is begun, starting with a focus on Speaking and Listening in Reception, reading accurately (assessed via the Year 1 Phonics screening) and increasingly for understanding in Year 1 and reading for comprehension and writing in Year 2 which is again assessed through Key Stage 1 SATs at the end of Year 2.

'Secure in the love of Jesus' – our curriculum is child centred; providing opportunities for SMSC from which all children learn and develop a range of skills which they will need in order to succeed in life.

In line with our Mission Statement, our prime aim in the teaching and learning of English is child centred, so that every child is encouraged to do their best, has opportunities to explore and learn and comes to love and respect the wonderful world God has created for them.

The English Curriculum will enable students to explore ideas of the human condition and offer pupils the chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of writers' processes through

scrutiny of a wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts across historical and social periods. They will see themselves as writers and communicators as they develop and refine their own clear voice and become more able to form and defend reflective opinions.

‘We use opportunities to explore and learn’ – our curriculum is a purposeful and memorable experience with opportunities for all children to develop as individuals; to be confident and resilient learners by promoting high expectations and standards in Reading, Writing, Maths and all subjects.

The study of English develops children’s abilities to listen, speak, read and write for a wide range of purposes, so using language to learn and communicate ideas, views and feelings. It enables children to express themselves creatively and imaginatively, as they become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry and drama, as well as non-fiction and media texts. Children gain an understanding of how language works by looking at its patterns, structures and origins.

A wide range of resources are used including ICT, film, drama, photography and art. Children use their knowledge, skills and understanding in speaking and writing across a range of different situations. Pupils are given opportunities to interrelate the requirements of English within a broad and balanced approach to the teaching of English across the curriculum, with opportunities to consolidate and reinforce taught literacy skills.

‘Never overlooking the needs of others’ – our curriculum is rooted in principles of Catholic social teaching (as per the teachings of Pope Francis); encouraging all children to have high aspirations and make positive contributions to their community and wider global society, becoming advocates for social justice.

At St Veronica's, children are given an environment which is safe and secure and which provides encouragement for the development of all aspects of English. Teachers ensure that there is equality of access and opportunity for all children to develop their English skills and we seek to ensure that all children achieve their full potential in all aspects of English by the time they move from primary to secondary education.

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Our English curriculum provides children with the opportunity to read, write and speak with confidence, fluency and understanding, orchestrating a range of independent strategies to self-monitor and correct. We actively promote an interest in books and reading for enjoyment.

The children are supported to understand a range of text types and genres – to be able to write in a variety of styles and forms appropriate to the situation. This develops in the children, the powers of imagination, inventiveness and critical awareness.

Through the reading and writing curriculum, the children acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar, punctuation and spelling and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.