



English Curriculum at Gaddesden Row School

Reading

Curriculum Intent:

At Gaddesden Row, we aim to provide children with a literacy-rich environment, high quality texts and inspiring learning opportunities, which will help them to gain a life-long enjoyment of reading and books. We aim for our children to become enthusiastic and motivated readers. We will encourage a love of literature and an enjoyment of reading for pleasure. Our children will learn to read accurately, fluently and with understanding, be able to read with expression, clarity and confidence and use reading to provoke thought within children.

Curriculum Implementation:

Our curriculum aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.

We have a skills based approach to reading using VIPERS skills within regular Guided Reading lessons. (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explain, Retrieve and Sequence/Summarise). In our school, our reading curriculum links closely with our writing curriculum; we use a text-based approach that enables us to create opportunities for reading, discussion and writing within English and reading lessons. In early KS1, there is a greater emphasis on phonics; this is then applied throughout the rest of the school to consolidate what has been learnt. Within daily phonic sessions, children have the opportunity to revisit previous learning, practise and apply new skills in structured but engaging ways. We encourage reading for pleasure through children having a choice of challenging and enriching texts as well as building in time for children to read

independently and as part of a whole class. Reading skills are continually developed through the wider curriculum.

Curriculum Impact:

Regardless of background, ability or additional needs, by the time children leave Gaddesden Row, they will:

- be enthusiastic and motivated readers who are confident and will enjoy reading a wide variety of genres and text types
- have the skills to decode words in order to be able to read fluently with a secure understanding of what they have read
- be inspired by literature and will read for pleasure.

Writing

Curriculum Intent:

At Gaddesden Row JMI School, we strive to help our children develop into articulate and imaginative communicators, who are well-equipped with the basic skills they need to become life-long learners; English learning is key in this. We aim to ensure all of our children develop a genuine love of language and the written word, through a text-based approach. Careful links are made across the curriculum to ensure that children's English learning is relevant and meaningful: where possible linking our reading, writing and the topic that we are covering in History and Geography. We ensure that children develop an understanding of how widely writing is used in everyday life and, therefore, how important and useful the skills are that they are learning. Our intentions in writing are for children to write for a purpose, take ownership of their writing, see writing as an interesting and enjoyable process and acquire the ability to organise and plan their written work.

Curriculum Implementation:

Our curriculum aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.

We aim to develop children's ability to produce well-structured, detailed writing in which the meaning is made clear and which engages the interest of the audience / reader. Particular attention is paid throughout the school to the formal structures of English: grammatical detail, punctuation and spelling. Teachers clearly model writing skills and document the learning journey through consistent working walls; guided writing sessions are used to target specific needs of both groups and individuals. Children have opportunities to write at length, in extended, independent writing sessions at the end of a unit of work - applying their taught skills to an unsupported piece of writing. Throughout the Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, we teach writing through a text-based approach, which allows us to meet the needs of the children that we are teaching - through choosing a text that will engage, inspire and motivate. As well as reading a wide variety of genres, children are given frequent opportunities to develop their skills in writing in different genres. Pupils are taught discrete spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, appropriate to their year group, within our text-based approach to planning, allowing opportunities to identify, practice and consolidate grammatical understanding, whilst also being immersed in a text. Children then apply the skills that they have learnt in their extended pieces of writing.

Curriculum Impact:

Regardless of background, ability or additional needs, by the time children leave Gaddesden Row, they will:

- have a love for writing and write for enjoyment
- be able to produce written work in all areas of the curriculum to a high standard
- be confident to write for a range of different purposes