

## Intent

At Quinton Primary School, English is at the heart of our curriculum and underpins all areas of learning. We are committed to ensuring that every child becomes a confident reader, writer and communicator, equipped with the essential skills they need for success in school and later life. Our English curriculum is designed to develop a love of language through a strong foundation in phonics, rich reading experiences and purposeful, high-quality writing opportunities.

We prioritise early reading through a systematic synthetic phonics approach, ensuring that children develop secure decoding skills and fluency from the very start of their school journey. As pupils progress, we aim to foster a lifelong love of reading by exposing them to a wide range of high-quality texts, authors and genres, enabling them to build cultural capital and deepen their understanding of the world.

Writing is carefully structured to ensure progression in grammar, punctuation, vocabulary and composition. We intend for pupils to write with clarity, creativity and purpose across a range of contexts and subjects. Through a focus on vocabulary development, language exploration and spoken communication, we aim to develop articulate learners who can express themselves confidently and effectively.

Ultimately, our intent is to nurture enthusiastic readers, skilled writers and confident speakers who are fully prepared for the next stage of their education and beyond.

## Implementation

English is taught daily across the school, with a clear and structured approach to phonics, reading and writing.

Early reading is delivered through the Twinkl Phonics programme, with daily, systematic phonics teaching in EYFS and Key Stage 1. Children read fully decodable books matched closely to their phonics stage, ensuring they practise and embed the sounds they have been taught. Regular assessment ensures that teaching is responsive and that no child falls behind.

Reading continues to be prioritised throughout Key Stage 2 through whole-class reading sessions three times per week, using the FRED Reading resources and rich questioning to develop comprehension skills. Pupils are exposed to a wide range of high-quality texts, alongside a carefully selected class novel which is read aloud to model fluency, expression and understanding. Opportunities to read independently and for pleasure are embedded throughout the school day, supported by enrichment activities such as Book Week, World Book Day and reading buddy systems.

Writing is taught through a clear, sequenced approach which builds skills over time. Lessons are carefully planned using progression documents and focus on breaking down National Curriculum objectives into manageable steps. A consistent teaching sequence is followed, including assessment, explicit teaching of skills, exploration of model texts, vocabulary development, planning, writing and feedback. Pupils are given regular opportunities for extended, independent writing, often linked to class texts or wider curriculum topics to ensure purpose and engagement.

Vocabulary development is a key focus across all areas of English, with explicit teaching, modelling and opportunities for application in both reading and writing. High expectations for presentation and handwriting are maintained across all subjects.

Assessment is ongoing and purposeful, including daily formative assessment, half-termly cold writing tasks, termly teacher assessments and GPS testing. This ensures that teaching is responsive and targeted to meet the needs of all learners. Interventions, including targeted support and programmes such as Nessy, are used to support pupils who require additional help, ensuring that all children make strong progress.

## Impact

The impact of our English curriculum is evident in the high standards of reading and writing achieved by our pupils and in their enthusiasm for language and literature. Children leave Quinton Primary School as fluent, confident readers who can access a wide range of texts with understanding and enjoyment.

Pupils develop as capable writers who can write for a variety of purposes and audiences, using accurate grammar, punctuation and ambitious vocabulary. They are able to plan, draft and edit their work effectively, demonstrating independence and resilience in the writing process.

Across the school, children are able to articulate their ideas clearly, using a rich and varied vocabulary. They demonstrate strong comprehension skills, thinking critically about what they read and making meaningful connections across texts and subjects.

As you walk around our school, the impact of English can be seen through:

- High-quality writing across all subjects
- Engaged readers who can confidently discuss texts using appropriate terminology
- Well-presented work that reflects pride and care
- Classroom environments rich in vocabulary and language
- Displays celebrating reading, writing and authors
- Pupil voice demonstrating a genuine love of reading and writing

Through our carefully planned and ambitious English curriculum, pupils are fully prepared for the next stage of their education, with the literacy skills and confidence they need to succeed in the wider world.