

# Our Curriculum for ENGLISH



## ENGLISH CURRICULUM - INTENT

### School Vision:

At St. Mary's we provide a welcoming, safe and happy school where everyone is respected and listened to; a school where we take pride in ourselves and our achievements, enabling children to become confident and successful learners. We aim to rise above the ordinary and promote excellence by providing a positive, inclusive environment for learning and growth. Inspired by our faith in Christ, and together with our parents, carers, churches and communities, we aim for each person to reach their full potential in body, mind, heart and spirit. We work as a team, in partnership with all members of the school community, to offer a high quality, stimulating, safe and innovative learning environment which values and supports all children to achieve their potential. We nurture children who understand and are able to adapt positively as active citizens, to the diverse world in which they live, both now and in the future and grow as people. Our high standards of teaching and personalised learning are set within a broad, balanced and creative curriculum. A curriculum which is intended to prepare our learners to make a positive contribution towards society and enjoy future success.

### Subject Curriculum Vision:

In English & supported throughout all subjects, we aim to empower & enrich our children's vocabulary & so prepare them for the next stage in their educational journey (& beyond) so that no child is hindered or held back by a deficit of language as a result of deprivation. We want them to be able to articulate themselves & their learning through a wide bank of subject specific terminology as well as being creative & innovative in their speech & writing. We aim to inspire our children to become fluent, confident life-long readers who can discuss the joy of literature as well as develop their own style & expression through wide opportunities for writing.

### Our Curriculum for our Context:

St. Mary's Church of England Academy is situated in Walkley which is a suburb in the north west of Sheffield. The school dates back to 1865. The area consists mainly of Victorian fronted houses & has a high student population as it is near to Sheffield University. St Mary's converted to becoming an academy sponsored by the local diocese in 2014 & which became DSAT (the Diocese of Sheffield Academy Trust). Whilst it has capacity for 210 pupils, the school is a smaller than average school with 173 pupils on roll aged 4-11 years.

Mobility is much higher than average & is often due to children having parents who study at the university. This can obviously prove challenging. The school is in the top 20% of schools for the proportion of EAL with a well above average proportion of the school community is from a range of minority ethnic backgrounds & speaking English as an additional language from 11 out of 17 possible ethnic groups. In addition, pupils who need support for their special educational needs and / or disabilities is about average & the number of children who are eligible for the pupil premium is above national figures.

Our Curriculum reflects the ethos & aims of the school as well as the context from which our children derive. This means that our curriculum provides the necessary building blocks to develop the necessary knowledge & skills, whilst also promoting British Values, healthy lifestyles & mental wellbeing, plus excellent behaviour & attitudes. It is underpinned with a large emphasis on SMSC development, a strong practical outworking for others in line with our Christian ethos, whilst also building character & readiness for the next stages of education & the learning journey beyond.

# ENGLISH CURRICULUM - IMPLEMENTATION

The overarching aim for English in the National Curriculum 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. The national curriculum for English aims 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.

Learning Experience	Resources	Links with other Subject Areas
What is the breadth of experience provided for our children?	What resources are used to support the teaching & learning of this subject?	What links are made between this & other subject areas?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality First teaching: variety of teaching styles, varied stimulus,</li> <li>• Quality Resources: Books, texts, online resources &amp; programmes</li> <li>• Visits: library &amp; theatre</li> <li>• Visitors: authors</li> <li>• Experiences: Guided Reading (daily), Phonics Sessions (daily in FS and KS1), Home Reading, World Book Week, READy Brek, 1 to 1 reading weekly (KS1), Targeted children read daily to an adult, Buddy Reading System, Speed Read Events, links to other curriculum areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide variety of books (fiction, non-fiction, varied authors, genres, schemes, etc.)</li> <li>• Texts</li> <li>• online resources &amp; programmes</li> <li>• Published schemes</li> <li>• Phonics resources</li> <li>• Comprehension activities</li> <li>• Grammar activities</li> <li>• Self &amp; peer assessment materials</li> <li>• Tests</li> </ul>	<p>Links are made with other subject areas wherever possible &amp; English skills are often taught via other subject areas through Reading &amp; Writing based outcomes.</p>

## Planning & Sequencing of Knowledge & Skills

How is the subject planned & sequenced in order that our children can progress through the Building Blocks for learning? This may include: Vocabulary, People, Places, Events, Concepts, Skills, Analysis, Evaluation, Problem-solving, Creativity, Independence, etc.

See Appendices attached.

# ENGLISH CURRICULUM - IMPACT

Assessment	Monitoring & Evaluation	Long Term Memory
<b>How is this subject assessed?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher assessment</li> <li>• Formal assessment – termly / SATs</li> <li>• Guided Reading records</li> <li>• Marking</li> <li>• PM Benchmark testing</li> <li>• Phonics assessments</li> </ul>	<b>How do we know we have been successful?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson observations</li> <li>• Results / Data Analysis</li> <li>• Work scrutiny</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Timetables</li> <li>• In school writing moderation</li> <li>• SLT reading with children</li> <li>• Bell Foundation EAL steps completed termly</li> </ul>	<b>How does this subject impact on long term memory?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision &amp; recapping</li> <li>• Success Criteria</li> <li>• Feedback / reflection from marking</li> <li>• Repeated recall</li> <li>• Curriculum Mats</li> <li>• Links &amp; connections with other subject areas plus old &amp; new knowledge</li> <li>• Learning Journals</li> <li>• Quizzes</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul>
Readiness for Next Stage of Education	Promotion of Social Mobility	Promotion of British Values & SMSC
<b>How does this subject prepare our children for the next stage of their educational journey at secondary school &amp; beyond?</b>	<b>How does this subject promote social mobility?</b>	<b>How does this subject promote British Values &amp; SMSC?</b>
<p>We endeavour to ensure that the sequence of content enables our children to progress whilst they are with us, but also to provide the building blocks necessary to develop further at secondary school &amp; their learning journey beyond. Underlying all of this is our emphasis on Learning Culture which provides the underlying principles of attitude, resilience &amp; character.</p>	<p>Our aim is that no child is disadvantaged by their background situation &amp; that, as a school, we provide everything that a child needs so that there is no cumulative dysfluency or gaps in learning. As a result, we ensure that children have a broad range of curriculum experiences, free access to a wide variety of books, multiple opportunities to speak as well as listen, plus our curriculum is designed in order to boost general as well as subject specific vocabulary.</p>	<p>Through our rich &amp; varied curriculum, we ensure that our children are well equipped for life in modern Britain &amp;, through subject linkage have an excellent understanding of Democracy, the Rule of Law, Responsibility &amp; Liberty, Mutual Respect plus Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs. Our Curriculum is driven by SMSC Development &amp;, as a result, pupils thrive – enjoying their lives, learning &amp; want to make a difference for others.</p>