



English

Intent

- Develop children's speaking and listening skills, to enable them to communicate confidently and effectively in a variety of circumstances.
- Build on pupils' strengths, interests and experiences and develop their confidence in their capacity to learn and work independently and collaboratively.
- Provide a rich language environment that promotes and celebrates a culture of reading and writing.
- Develop an interest and a love of books.
- Develop children's confidence and encourage them to see themselves as readers and writers for pleasure and purpose.
- Equip children with the range of strategies necessary to develop reading fluency and accuracy.
- Give opportunities to express their creativity and explore their imagination through drama, play and in written forms.
- To recognise each child has their own starting point and ensure every child can celebrate success by personalising learning and supporting all pupils to acquire and develop basic skills in literacy.
- Provide and enrich, structured and enjoyable teaching sequences.
- Equip children with the presentational skills necessary to develop effective writing (i.e. handwriting, spelling and punctuation).

Implementation

Reading

Quality texts and reading lead all of the learning we do at Stocksbridge NI School. For every theme, books are chosen carefully for each year group based on vocabulary, style and quality. These quality texts improve the children's cultural capital. Books are read daily in whole class shared reading sessions. Alongside shared reading, children are given the opportunity to read with an adult, in a group twice per week and individually whenever possible. All reading sessions work on skills that children need to develop to become a successful reader. These include developing phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, reading comprehension and fluency. We welcome reading volunteers in school and work closely with the charity Beanstalk Readers.

As part of our drive for children to read for pleasure, we visit our local library every term to partake in story time sessions and activities. This also gives children the opportunity to become a library member and borrow books.

Writing

We teach Writing through a mastery approach that follows a structured teaching sequence. This is a curriculum designed through school and with the guidance of English Advisor Teresa Heathcote.

During the first half term we teach narrative through a story such as On Sudden Hill or Bog Baby.

Children learn a story and can retell it orally and through writing. We teach children spelling, punctuation and grammar skills that are applied into their storytelling.

During the second half of each term we have a non-fiction and poetry focus, these are linked to our themes. This approach builds confidence and develops skills across all year groups.

Phonics

For phonics, we follow the Monster Phonics scheme of work. Monster Phonics is a whole school scheme. It teaches children to read by enabling them to identify the letters and to blend sounds together to read words. It uses a multi-sensory approach – the children use their different senses to learn, not rely on just listening, looking or doing but using combinations of approaches to make it easier for the children to remember; to make the learning stick. Children at Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School start their Monster Phonics Learning in Reception and continue into Year One and Two. The children are all taught in their year groups.