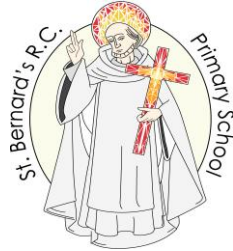


St Bernard's RCP

"A unique family in faith, love and learning."



English Policy

St Bernard's English Policy 2024

"A unique family in faith, love and learning."

Justification:

At St Bernard's, we encourage every child to reach their true potential. In order to fulfil this, we build foundations to enable every child to become literate, preparing them with the skills for adult life. The English teaching we provide allows all children to fulfil their potential while giving them the skills to understand and use language in all its aspects. We aim to include and engage all children in high quality learning experiences and texts in order to develop a passion for lifelong reading, while providing the confidence to communicate effectively in both speech and writing. Through reading, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. We aim to ensure every child develops the confidence and competence to embrace literature in its many forms. This policy statement outlines all that is important to our school in the teaching and learning of our English Curriculum. Staff teach English in the most effective way possible through the implementation of the National Curriculum English Programmes of Study and daily synthetic phonics programme to allow children to develop confidence and competence with regards to English skills regardless of gender, ethnicity or social/economic background.

Intent:

1. To extend and develop the knowledge of language the children bring from home by providing a wide range of linguistic experiences.
2. To develop early reading and writing through a high quality phonics scheme.
3. To promote high standards of language and literacy, reading, spelling, writing, speaking and listening.
4. To equip pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment and pleasure.
5. To teach pupils to read easily, fluently with good comprehension / understanding.
6. To help pupils develop the good habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information.
7. To use a book spine to deliver engaging, exciting and well planned lessons.
8. To ensure that pupils acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language.
9. To help pupils to appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage.
10. To teach pupils to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.
11. To enable pupils to use discussion in order to learn; to be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas.
12. To ensure that pupils are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

Implementation:

1. Teachers will develop pupils' spoken language across the whole curriculum – cognitively, socially and linguistically.
2. To ensure phonics is delivered through daily taught sessions followed by holding a sentence and writing activities. To use Read, Write, Inc to develop knowledge in Reception and Y1. To ensure those pupils who still need phonics teaching receive it in a small group of 1:1 intervention.
3. Spoken language will underpin the development of reading and writing.
4. The quality and variety of language that pupils hear and speak will be used for developing their vocabulary and grammar and their understanding for reading and writing.
5. Teachers will ensure the continual development of pupils' confidence and competence in spoken language and listening skills.
6. Pupils will develop a capacity to explain their understanding of books and other reading, and to prepare their ideas before they write.
7. Pupils will be helped to make their thinking clear to themselves as well as to others and teachers will ensure that pupils build secure foundations by using discussion to extend thinking skills.
8. Drama, poetry and role play will be used to build pupils confidence and to practise their skills in speaking, listening reading writing and performing in front of others.
9. The teaching of reading will focus on word reading and comprehension and it will be developed across the curriculum and phonics alongside other key strategies which will play an important part in teaching pupils to read and spell.
10. Comprehension skills will be developed through pupils' experience of high-quality discussion with their teachers, as well as from reading and discussing a range of stories, poems and non-fiction.
11. All pupils will be encouraged to read fiction and non-fiction texts to develop their knowledge of themselves and the world in which they live, to establish an appreciation and love of reading, and to gain knowledge across the curriculum.
12. Teaching will develop pupils' competence in transcription and composition and pupils will be taught how to plan, revise and evaluate their writing using the class novels as stimuli.
13. Pupils will be taught to use the elements of spelling, grammar, punctuation correctly and to understand and use Standard English in their speaking and writing.
14. Clear communication with parents - informing them of and including them in their children's progress and explaining the school's approach to the teaching of English through termly parental conferences and annual written reports.
15. Parent correspondence through the Reading Record, will be evident in Reading Records.

Impact: English is one of the most important subjects taught in this school. All the skills of English are essential to participating fully as a member of society. Pupils, therefore, will learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently.

Review: This document will be reviewed annually by the Subject Leader, staff and governors.

Policy drawn up by J Grant
September 2024.

To be reviewed September 2026.