

## English Curriculum Statement; Intent, Implementation and Impact

February 2023

### **Intent – What do we want to achieve in English teaching and learning?**

At St Laurence Catholic Primary, our curriculum is driven by our school drivers: whole child, community and communication. Our Reading curriculum is underpinned by a range high quality texts, exposing children to a variety of authors and characters from different backgrounds and dealing with different themes. Our reading curriculum is then supplemented with a variety of additional literature, such as non-fiction model examples or poetry, to expose our children to a breadth of genres of writing. Our curriculum ensures that children are exposed to a range of text types across the year, allowing them opportunities to explore, analyse and produce their own pieces of writing in these different genres. This aims to broaden their whole child experiences. At St Laurence Catholic Primary, we are passionate about exposing children to vocabulary that they can use in their spoken and written language. Every reading lesson, begins with a focus on vocabulary that will be explored in their key text or key extract for that session. We have a different vocabulary focus each day, to ensure that children can be exposed to vocabulary in a multitude of ways. Additionally, children have lots of speaking and listening opportunities, to develop their communication skills.

Along with this, we aim to ensure that children are explicitly taught punctuation, grammar and spelling (SPAG) that fits in with the text types being taught. Both the text types and SPAG that are taught, are then repeated throughout the years, to ensure optimum coverage. At St Laurence Catholic Primary, we are passionate about the need for children to revisit and revise their skills and understanding, so that they are able to apply their learning across all areas of the curriculum, thus enabling them to consolidate their literacy skills. Our aim is that children are taught the specific reading skills that they need, in order to fully comprehend texts.

By exposing children to a variety of different genres and text types, we aim to instil a life-long love of literature. We aim to achieve this by:

Enabling children to develop and explore their English skills with confidence and an awareness of their audience.

Encouraging children to work in groups, pairs and independently in their subject through various activities; drama, debates, writing for an audience

Teaching basic reading and writing skills, enabling them to apply these across the wider curriculum

Building on their understanding and comprehension skills

Exposing them to high-quality key texts as our centre foci

Modelling to children exemplar pieces of writing, enabling them to use this to effectively edit and improve their own written work.

Celebrating and encouraging reading and writing across the wider curriculum.

## **Implementation – How we plan and teach English.**

As our curriculum is rooted in exposing children to high quality texts in reading, this enables literacy to be supported across our broad and balanced curriculum. Our writing is then supplemented with a model piece of additional literature, linking with the focus text type for writing. Where possible, these are linked across our wider curriculum. Our high-quality text, ensures that children are being exposed to a vocabulary rich curriculum. Alongside this, we have ensured that vocabulary is at the forefront of our reading lessons, by having focused vocabulary sessions at the beginning of each reading lesson.

Our Writing curriculum has been mapped out, to ensure optimum coverage of a range of text types, as well as the relevant SPAG linked with this. There are then opportunities across the school for revisiting and consolidation. For reading, our reading lessons are specifically focused on a reading skill (Retrieval, Inference, Summarising, Predicting, Language, Authorial Intent). These are explicitly taught to children so they are aware what the skill is, allowing them to then apply this learnt skill, in all areas of our curriculum. Throughout each week, children will learn to apply these reading skills to both their key text and the supplementary extracts. Reading is essential in order for children to access our curriculum and wider life, so we are passionate in ensuring that reading underpins our whole curriculum.

The children take part in class and whole school assemblies, class masses, parish mass and whole school masses, performances, harvest festival, speeches, debates, and school council. These all enable children to apply their speaking and listening skills.

Parents/carers are informed of our topics and areas of coverage at the beginning of term, which enables them to support their children with appropriate experiences. Parents/carers are provided with resources on how to effectively read with their children and question them. Parents in KS1 and Early Years, are offered Phonics and Early reading training to further support them with this.

Teaching assistants and class teachers are provided with the necessary CPD in order to enable them to effectively embed our English curriculum. This is then monitored by the subject leader and the Head of School.

Additionally, children are also exposed to:

- Daily story time in all classes, where children listen to an adult reading aloud
- Daily phonics sessions in EYFS & KS1
- Daily whole class guided reading sessions for KS2
- 5 Guided reading sessions every 2 weeks, for KS1
- Access to class book corners, which promote a love of reading
- Book related activities yearly for World Book Day
- Book fairs
- Visits/experiences linked to writing or reading
- EYFS & KS1 children heard on a 1:1 basis weekly
- Interventions in place across the school, for identified pupils, for both reading and writing.



## **Impact - What are the English learning outcomes for our pupils and how do we know?**

This will be seen in our daily English lessons, with teachers adapting as they see fit to the needs of the children in their class.

Our impact will be demonstrated by the children in the class, in how they talk about their English lessons.

Our impact will be clear by the progress made by our children at all the assessment points throughout the year, alongside how many children leave St Laurence Catholic Primary, having achieved the expected standard.

Children will enjoy listening to adults read and in turn develop a love of reading for pleasure.

Children will produce pieces of writing in a range of different forms.

Children will be exposed to experiences that will develop them as a whole child.

All pupils will be encouraged to respond to next steps, to push their learning on. They will also be encouraged to peer and self-assess during lessons, to identify areas of improvement and strength.