

## Intent

We want children at Holland Moor to be authors, journalists, poets, actors. We aim to provide our children with a high quality English curriculum where we will teach our pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others, and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society.

The overarching aim for English at Holland Moor is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written language, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. Our English curriculum 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.

## Implementation

We have a rigorous and well-organised English curriculum and framework at Holland Moor that provides many purposeful opportunities for reading, writing and discussion formed by all requirements of the National Curriculum 2014. It has been developed by choosing high quality texts that will motivate and inspire children and foster a love of reading and writing.

We have chosen books that sit together under literary themes. The order of the texts is especially important in the Early Years and Y1 where phonic knowledge is

developing at a rapid rate. We have matched appropriate texts to where we feel pupils have secure knowledge in particular phonemes for decoding and therefore they may use them for encoding. Where this is not the case we adapt texts/planning to make it accessible to all pupils.

At Key Stage One, Holland Moor follow a yearly programme of study. At key stage two we follow a two-year rolling programme ensuring full coverage of each year group objectives and to support cross curricular links.

In addition to daily English lessons, at Holland Moor our pupils develop their early reading skills through the use of FFT Success for All, daily phonics programme from the beginning of Reception – Year 2. Phonics sessions take place daily. Phonological awareness helps the development of reading by segmenting and blending sounds and the children are heard reading regularly - individually, in groups and as a whole class. We ensure that children receive high quality phonic teaching on a daily basis throughout school. We also provide individual or focused spelling and phonics sessions to ensure that our children are well placed to read and spell words with fluency and confidence.

Our teaching of writing is planned around high quality appropriately levelled texts, of varying genre and context. This enables us to develop confident, enthusiastic writers who can express themselves in a variety of different styles and across a variety of contexts. Children are provided with regular opportunities to write for a range of purposes and audiences. Writing tasks are specific and meaningful, and often meet a purpose to engage children and to illustrate how their writing skills can be applied to real life contexts.

Within the wider curriculum, teachers ensure that there are opportunities planned for children to further develop their literacy skills, including regular cross-curricular writing, ensuring that standards are consistent across the curriculum. At Holland Moor Primary School, we believe that writing is strengthened by instilling a love for reading within our pupils.

Subject specific knowledge and tier two vocabulary are fundamental; therefore, children are taught technical and adventurous vocabulary throughout their learning and encouraged to use these frequently, both orally and in written form to expand their vocabulary.

Confident use of Grammar and Punctuation skills are interwoven and taught throughout English and Reading lessons. Teachers ensure specific writing skills are taught in a progressive manner and are revisited and consolidated regularly. Teachers

respond to children's work and ensure common misconceptions are addressed to enable children to realise their full potential.

This document should be read in conjunction with The Holland Moor Handbook.

## Impact

The impact on our pupils is clear: progress, sustained learning and transferrable skills. Children recognise that writing is a vital life skill that they will rely on in many areas of their daily life. Children have a positive view of writing due to learning in an environment where writing is promoted as being an exciting, engaging and enjoyable subject in which they can express themselves confidently and creatively; they are becoming more confident writers and by the time they are in upper Key Stage 2, most genres of writing are familiar to them and the teaching can focus on creativity, writer's craft, sustained writing and manipulation of grammar and punctuation skills.

Outcomes of work in Learning Books evidence the high quality of English work and the impact of varied and cross-curricular writing opportunities. These enable children to write across a range of forms and adapt their writing successfully, considering the purpose and audience. As a result of being exposed to adventurous vocabulary, children are able to express themselves in imaginative ways, as well as use the accurate terminology when studying the wider curriculum.

We hope that as pupils move on from Holland Moor Primary School to further their education and learning, that their creativity, passion for English and high aspirations travel with them and continue to grow and develop as they do.

Holland Moor's English journey has a positive impact on our children leading to outstanding progress over time across key stages, relative to a child's individual starting point. Children are confident and competent readers and writers who can present a quality piece of work and read with fluency and enthusiasm. They are excited about developing a foundation for understanding the world and show an appreciation of the beauty and power of English, with a sense of passion and enjoyment about the subject. Children will therefore be expected to leave Holland Moor reaching at least age-related expectations in English.