

Everybody Prepared and Inspired to be the Best we can be.
Excellent Relationships.
Excellent Classrooms.
Hearts in Billingham and Eyes on the World.



English Curriculum Vision Statement

By the time children leave Billingham South Primary School, they are expressive, enthusiastic pupils who are able to articulate themselves in many ways. English at Billingham South is the vehicle that ensures our pupils are literacy skilled across the curriculum. It is meaningful and contextualised within curriculum, topics and, above all else, is fun, allowing our children to be the best they can be.

Starting from early language and communication opportunities in EYFS, to RWInc in KS1, to well planned opportunities in KS2, means that English skills of all areas evolves over the period in which our children are with us, building each year. We strive to ensure our children experience excellent classrooms and excellent relationships with staff, who are consistently good role models.

The teaching of reading within the curriculum is done through a carefully topic linked reading spine, which enables cross curriculum links. The reading spine allows for a variety of reading opportunities (including reading at the end of the day) and exposes the children to different perspectives and settings/time periods around the world. Whole class teaching of reading allows our children to learn from effective modelled reading; including challenging and discussing elements of texts/picture books to derive meaning and understanding and building their resilience as readers. Such reading opportunities allow for implicit teaching of vocabulary in a meaningful context. Our ability matched reading scheme books encourage reading texts to be shared with an adult at home. We reward our children who complete reading stamp cards with a free book to instil a love of reading and further engagement at home between adults. Guided reading is implemented in small groups daily with a focus on our 5 question types (Red Retrieval, Pink Prediction, Indigo Inference, Crimson Clarifying and Silver Summarising), ensuring a clear, consistent approach when discussion takes place in those sessions to develop a range of reading skills.

Children at Billingham South have the opportunity to write every single day. Whether it is within an English lesson or part of topic/Science, our children have a variety of opportunities to produce quality writing. The teaching of writing is engaging as children are immersed in new styles of writing, in a range of ways, enabling new skills to be learned and used. Writing lessons are carefully structured/modelled to allow children to explore new genres and feel confident to independently apply new knowledge and skills to their own writing. Writing is a process which is arrived at by using meaningful stimuli, sharing good examples, exploring particular elements/ideas, drama and so on. Children are given opportunities to draft and edit work, increasing



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independence to do so as they move through KS2, and allowing instant feedback from staff in order for writing to develop further at the moment of learning.

The thread, we feel, interlinking both reading and writing is quality modelled speaking and listening, including all staff using Standard English. At our school, we talk, talk, talk at any given opportunity, encouraging the children to be confident/articulate speakers. Discussing, questioning, probing and inferring develops effective reading and purposeful writing at Billingham South, from EY to Y6.

