



All things are possible for those who believe. (Mark 9:23)

Learning together we grow in faith.

Curriculum Statement – English - Reading

Intent

At Little Heaton we pride ourselves on developing a love of reading. From the very first moment our children join our school family, they are encouraged to read for enjoyment. We provide our children with the techniques required to read with fluency, understanding and accuracy, giving them a range of strategies to decipher words and build up vocabulary.

Implementation

At Little Heaton, our curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability, additional needs, to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. We teach the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression. This ensures that skills and knowledge are built on year by year and sequenced appropriately to maximise learning for all children.

In Reception and throughout, there is a greater emphasis on phonics. Our children are taught synthetic phonics through Read, Write, Inc (RWI) the school's phonics programme. Reception and KS1 children are taught phonics through structured daily group and whole class sessions. Our children learn to read words through segmenting and blending sounds, being taught the graphemes needed to read with increasing fluency. This is then applied throughout the rest of the school to consolidate what has been learnt. Within daily phonic sessions, children have the opportunity to revisit previous learning, practise and apply new skills in structured but engaging ways.

As our children progress off the RWI programme and into KS2 they begin on a new reading journey which we teach daily through RAMP reading sessions. The children begin to develop a better understanding of the composition of books and are equipped with the skills to unravel how stories are written and structured. RAMP allows the children to develop a love for a wide range of texts, which have been carefully selected by the teachers to stretch vocabulary, understanding, comprehension and an insight into the world around us.



We encourage reading for pleasure through children having a choice of challenging and enriching texts as well as building in time for children to read independently and as part of a whole class. Our school library offers a wide range of books and texts which our children are able to access throughout the day. Children are encouraged to read different authors and genres and the staff in the school always try to encourage the children and recommend books to develop that love of reading. Each class, throughout the school has a designated story time session where the class story or novel is read by the teacher and children also have specific times where they can engage in their own quiet reading session.

Alongside this, we have regular author visits, books fairs and World Book Day – one of the highlights of the year!

Impact

Regardless of background, ability or additional needs, by the time children leave Little Heaton, they will:

- Be enthusiastic and motivated readers who are confident and will enjoy reading a wide variety of genres and text types
- Have the skills to decode words in order to be able to read fluently with a secure understanding of what they have read
- Be inspired by literature and will read for pleasure.