

## English

### Intent

At St James' Church of England Primary Academy, we strive to prepare all our children to successfully aspire to a wealth of opportunities with curiosity and resilience embedded in all they do. We believe that a quality English curriculum should spark curiosity in order to develop children's love of reading, writing and discussion.

One of our priorities is helping children read and develop their all-important comprehension skills. We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts. We want to inspire children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening and who can use discussion to communicate and further their learning.

We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children take pride in their writing and write clearly and accurately whilst selecting and adapting their language and style to suit a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. We aim to provide opportunities to write in a range of ways and to take full advantage of opportunities for real-life learning as much as possible.

It is our intention that by the end of their primary education, all of our pupils will be able to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas effectively and with a developed awareness for purpose and audience.

### Implementation

We deliver English using Pie Corbett's Talk for Writing approach. By focussing on the oral retelling of various text types, familiar structures become fully embedded in the long term memory so that the children can later apply these structures to their own writing whilst developing the language techniques taught for the particular area of focus. For example, children may be writing using the structure of a story whilst developing their understanding of what makes an effective setting description. Core quality texts stand at the core of our English planning where we strive to intrinsically integrate the teaching of reading and writing. Children engage deeply with carefully selected texts as we foster their ability to: read as readers, read as writers and finally write as readers. The primary aim of using these texts so that we expose the children to a range of high-quality literature over the course of their primary school life and help to develop high aspirations for our children in what they are able to achieve. In this way, we aim to assist the children in their development of a rich vocabulary and of texts which are written with careful precision to captivate their audience. Teachers create model texts for specific writing units which aim to demonstrate to the children the language techniques which are to be taught and developed. Typically, in a unit of work, the focus will be developed through internalisation and contextualisation of the model text where children deepen their understanding of a particular text type, exploring other examples through wider whole-class reading and later creating a 'tool-kit' for purposeful writing. The writing process is always modelled by the teacher during shared writing sessions and seeks to develop resilience in our learners so that they are able to reach their full potential. Because talk plays a central role in our curriculum, both English and beyond, children quickly develop in confidence whilst embedding their core communication skills and subsequently develop as articulate citizens.

### Impact

Pupils will make good progress from their own personal starting points. They are able to show that they are curious and resilient learners that are able to make full use of opportunities that they have encountered so that by the end of Year Six,

- They will be able to read a range of texts to enhance their knowledge and understanding in a range of subjects and can communicate their research to a wider audience.
- They will be able to write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.
- Our pupils will acquire a wide vocabulary and have a strong command of the written word. Most importantly, they will develop a love of writing and be well equipped for the rest of their education.

