

# English

English is one of the core subjects of The National Curriculum. At Nutley CE Primary, we promote high standards of language and literacy across all curriculum areas. We aim to teach children to speak and write fluently so they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others in a variety of different ways. We encourage the children to learn more about others and the world around them by developing their listening and reading skills. We place a strong emphasis on the importance of reading, as a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Reading enables pupils both to acquire knowledge, and to build on what they already know. Above all, we seek to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment.

At Nutley CE Primary, we use the Synthetic Phonics system to teach phonics. The children begin learning single sounds when they start in Reception. (Phase 2). During their Reception year, they progress to Phase 3 where they finish learning their single sounds as well as learning 'digraphs' and 'trigraphs'. They also learn 'tricky' words from the Reception Common Exception Word List and begin learning the names of the letters of the alphabet. In Year 1 and 2, the children begin revising sounds from Phase 3, as well as learning alternative spellings for sounds, and learning the Common Exception Words for their year group. Throughout their phonics experience, children are taught to blend sounds together to read words and segmenting sounds to write words. Teachers use a variety of resources to teach phonics at Nutley, including 'Jolly Phonics' and 'Letters and Sounds'. We use a variety of reading scheme books organised into coloured bands from lilac to white. Our main schemes are: Oxford Reading Tree, Rising Stars – Reading Planet and Dandelion Launchers and Readers.

Class teachers are pleased to discuss with parents the ways in which they can help their children with reading. We ask parents to read with their children and to share the pleasure of books. Each child has a book for recording reading, in which parents can write comments.

In order to write, children must have something to write about or a purpose to write for. This is why at Nutley CE Primary, writing is very much linked to the topic and other curriculum areas and inspired by rich texts. We encourage children to talk and discuss, and to use role play and drama as part of the writing process. We develop reading skills using VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summary/Sequence). Children will

practise handwriting to enable them to develop a cursive style that is both legible and neat. Writing in a cursive style begins in our reception class.

Children's written work is celebrated by being read to the class, other classes in the school or in our Celebration Assembly, displayed on walls or made into books for a wider audience to share.

There are clear end of year expectations for each Year Group based on the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum.