



Crossflatts' English Curriculum

Our Intent-The Why

The Thrill...

To engage our children in their learning and to develop a love of English within them, we choose reading and writing opportunities that will be meaningful, exciting and linked to the theme for that half term. Each topic is based around a book that has been carefully chosen to hook the children's attention. Writing links to the class book to make sure that children are motivated to write and are bursting with ideas. Our whole school events, including our Reading Advent Tree, Extreme Reading Challenge and World Book Day, give our children the chance to read and write for pleasure. Within classrooms, our inviting reading corners act as mini libraries for the children to choose and share books as well as providing an exciting place to read for pleasure.

The Will...

Our curriculum creates exciting opportunities for reading and writing which then provide our children with the desire and motivation to improve. The importance of reading and writing in real life situations are understood by the children and this gives them the drive to improve in their own reading and writing. We use challenge within lessons to encourage the children to reach for the skies. Our children are aware of their targets for reading and writing as well as what they need to do to achieve them.

The Skill...

Reading and writing skills are taught through our English Journey and are closely linked to our class topic. Starting with a writing Launchpad, we can pinpoint the skills that will need to be taught for a particular text type. Teaching is tailored to individual's needs to make sure that progress is rapid. We recognise that reading skills need to spiral throughout school as the texts become more challenging and opportunities to practise these skills are provided throughout the curriculum.

...To be Brill

By providing a varied and challenging foundation in reading and writing, we are preparing our children for the future and for the next steps in their education. We aim for all of our children to be confident, independent readers, writers, speakers and listeners who can apply their skills to many different subjects and situations. Having mastered the primary English curriculum, they will be well prepared to successfully take whichever future path they choose.



How do we do it?

Reading, writing, speaking and listening, drama, spelling, punctuation and grammar are all closely woven together through our English Learning Journey.

Starting with a writing Launchpad, we predict, read and analyse our class text, focus on our VIPERS reading skills (vocabulary, infer, predict, explain, retrieve, summarise/sequence), study a WAGOLL (what a good one looks like), learn the skills that are required for writing, use drama to gather ideas, practise writing, edit and re-draft then finally produce our end product – the Showcase write.

Reading

At Crossflatts, we aim to give our children a strong foundation in the skills that are essential to reading:

- Decoding (being able to read words)
- Fluency (decoding with confidence to enable good comprehension)
- Comprehension (being able to understand what is read)
- Enjoyment (reading for pleasure to become a life-long reader)

Our Aims:

- Place reading and books at the centre of the curriculum.
- Promote reading for pleasure.
- Provide reading environments that are appealing and make children want to read.
- Teach reading strategies and skills to ensure that each child makes good progress.
- Teach phonic skills in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 to provide a strong foundation for decoding and fluency.
- Provide children with a wide range of purposeful, cross-curricular reading opportunities that have links with everyday life.
- Involve parents in their child's reading so that the school reading culture extends into the home.
- Provide consistency throughout the school in our approach to the teaching and learning of reading.

Writing

At Crossflatts, we aim to give our children the skills to become independent, creative writers, focusing on the main skills of writing:

- Transcription (handwriting and spelling)
- Punctuation and Grammar
- Composition (word choice, structure and organisation)
- Audience and purpose (knowing who you are writing for and why)



Our Aims:

- Provide writing opportunities that are meaningful, linked to the topic and that motivate children to want to write.
- Have high expectations of handwriting and presentation to ensure every piece of writing is the best that it can be.
- Place vocabulary at the centre of the writing journey.
- Write for real life audiences to give a purpose to writing.
- Teach writing skills in context by linking them to class books.
- Develop independent writers who can plan, write, edit and re-draft.
- Provide consistency throughout the school in our approach to the teaching and learning of writing.