



English How are Children Taught?

Our English lessons have a heavy focus on children's spoken language, and help to develop reading, writing, spelling and vocabulary. English is taught from the National Curriculum and we follow a thematic approach to create a bespoke programme for our children. Key knowledge and skills are taught across all lessons. Children develop a love of reading and writing and an understanding of language through carefully chosen texts, in order to develop fluent readers and creative writers.

We believe every child should be given the best possible support to achieve their potential of becoming good readers and lifelong learners. All children receive quality whole class and small group guided reading sessions to develop a 'toolkit' of reading strategies they can employ when reading independently. These sessions offer support in decoding texts at their level of working, as well as inference and deduction strategies. Our phonics teaching is something we are proud of, and Kentmere are recognised as a badge school for the teaching of the Read, Write Inc. phonics program. The children in EYFS and KS1 are given the best possible start to their reading journey through this.

The teaching of writing is taught in a creative and stimulating way through a thematic approach, using high quality books and texts. Key techniques are taught based on the English National Curriculum and these are used for writing across the curriculum in different forms and genres, such as narrative texts, information texts, instructional writing, poems and playscripts. Children are taught through the 'three phased approach'. To prepare for their writing, children are immersed in the text they are focusing on and are provided with opportunities to use drama techniques to draw out language and key themes and ideas. Together with the teacher, children then begin to structure their writing, sharing this orally, before using editing books to further improve their work. This then leads to independent writing using all the key techniques they have been taught. Children are also taught how to punctuate and structure their writing correctly, becoming fluent and creative writers.

Spelling, grammar and vocabulary are taught in discrete sessions as well as during English lessons, to provide the children with the skills to use independently through their reading and writing. Specific spelling rules are taught, which are applied to words and written into sentences through independent application. Children are taught to explore and investigate the origin of the words and complete word study investigations, noticing simple similarities and differences between words. This leads to children developing their own observations about why words follow certain patterns.