

The Year 1 Learner

Approach

In English lessons, children are taught speaking, listening, reading and writing skills through studying a variety of styles of writing (genres). Teachers follow the Teaching Sequence for Writing, which means that children will firstly be taught to read and understand the text, then practise the skills of the style of writing (including grammar) and apply into their own writing.

The Primary National Curriculum statements will be taught through the modules below.

Y1 English Coverage

The Year 1 English curriculum consists of the following modules:

Stories with predictable phrasing

Traditional Tales

Stories that reflect children's own experiences and interests

Lists, labels and captions

Instructions

Explanations

Report

Recount

Key poets/authors your children will encounter are:

Julia Donaldson, Polly Dunbar and Doreen Cronin

Recommended reading list:

This is a list of books that your child may enjoy reading. It covers a wide range of abilities and interests but may give you a useful starting point for further reading if you child enjoys one of the books suggested.

Where's my Teddy?

Another fine Mess

Not Like this, Like that

Stick Man

Squash and Squeeze

My Cat Charlie

How do you Feel?

Jez Alborough

Tony Bonning

Tony Bradman

Julia Donaldson

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Becky Edwards

Gillian Liu

I love animals	Flora McDonnell
The Silver Swan	Michael Morpurgo
Little Hopscotch	Brian Patten
I Don't Want to go to Bed	Julie Sykes
A Book about Light and Dark	Geoff Waring
All Join in	Quentin Blake
The Owl and the Pussy Cat	Edward Lear

Curriculum Content

Speaking and Listening

The children will become more familiar with and confident in using language in a greater variety of situations. They will, for example:

- Listen to and discuss a wide range of books and poems
- Recognise and join in with predictable phrases
- Learn some rhymes and poems to recite by heart
- Discuss the meaning of words and extend vocabulary
- Join in with discussions and explain their understanding
- Change their speaking when taking on a role of a character during play
- Speak grammatically correctly

Reading

This part of the curriculum is broken down into 'word reading' and 'comprehension'.

In Year 1, pupils continue to learn to read words using phonics as well as learning to recognise words that cannot easily be sounded out e.g. *once*. For further information regarding phonics and school reading scheme refer to the curriculum page of the school website. Otherwise, please talk to your child's class teacher who can give you more detail for Year 1.

As well as being able to read words, children need to understand what they read and develop a life-long love of reading. They will learn to do this through carefully structured activities using a wide range of high-quality books. They are encouraged to:

- Make links between their own experiences and the story
- Check that they understand what they are reading
- Talk about the title and the main events
- Predict what might happen before they read it
- Join in with predictable phrases

Writing

In Year 1 children develop their writing through the following areas:

Spelling:

- Spell words using phonics
- Learn commonly used whole words that are difficult to sound out
- Spell the days of the week
- Begin to look at patterns and rules

Handwriting:

- Hold a pencil correctly
- Form letters and digits correctly and confidently
- Leave spaces between words
- Write on lined paper

Composition:

- Speak in whole sentences
- Write sequences of sentences
- Re-read and check for sense
- Develop a wide vocabulary
- Use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks
- Join sentences with 'and'

For further information, please refer to the Year 1 class page on the website for the latest curriculum newsletter.