

The teaching of English supports the following areas of the Curriculum Vision for Overfields Primary School

To have secure basic skills in maths and English

Children at Overfields Primary School value and appreciate the central role English plays within the wider curriculum. They understand the importance of reading, writing and comprehension across subjects. English and maths are interrelated – children understand that word problems are short stories and they know that understanding the context is vital. Children understand that speaking and listening, reading and writing are a fundamental part of human interaction and recognise the skills which they learn, in both maths and English, are ones they will continue to rely on for the rest of their lives.

To have a love of reading

Carefully selected texts play a vital role across all areas of the curriculum as teachers creatively plan cross-curricular activities which relate directly to the National Curriculum. Children understand and appreciate the learning journey that reading takes them on and therefore their learning becomes more meaningful. English lessons stimulate curiosity and ignite children's imaginations whilst providing opportunities for them to express their ideas and opinions freely.

To stay healthy and safe

At Overfields Primary School, we recognise that English is a key skill through which children can express their feelings and concerns by speaking and listening, reading and writing. Therefore, a high-quality education in English is vital to teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Many children at Overfields Primary understand the sense of escapism that reading provides and they thoroughly enjoy immersing themselves into stories.

To be aspirational

Children will understand the difference between spoken and written language and be confident in selecting the appropriate register. They will learn about the success of famous people and how they overcame diversity to make positive changes in the world. English lessons introduce children to a wealth of both fictional and non-fictional characters who have achieved great things despite their set-backs. Children will understand that with perseverance, determination and resilience they too have the ability to achieve their dreams.

To be respectful and caring

Children will understand how to treat books with respect. They will listen carefully to published texts and work completed by their peers; asking and responding to questions in a polite manner. Children will offer feedback and advice to their peers – taking into consideration the feelings of others. Teachers provide a range of activities in which children can discuss and understand a range of viewpoints and emotions of different characters. Through debates, children will learn how to express their opposing ideas in a controlled and respectful way.

To be inquisitive, independent problem solvers

Children will be able to comment on their personal preferences and justify their reasons. They will use a range of strategies which help them to read, understand and evaluate texts independently. Teachers and children will ask a variety of questions in order to critically analyse and question information. Through a range of activities, children will be presented with open ended tasks and they will be asked to write about real life issues and events in a range of genres and styles. Children will use their knowledge of grammar to help express their intentions clearly.