



English at Limehurst

English is central to all areas of the curriculum. Discrete , subject specific lessons are needed to introduce and practise the various aspects of English but these skills can be consolidated across all areas of the curriculum and indeed , are often necessary to support success in other subjects. English skills can be used to help deepen children's understanding of other curriculum areas.

Having an understanding of how children learn and how to develop their skills is essential. We understand that children have a number of different learning styles and that English should be taught in a number of different ways so that it appeals to all and the optimum amount of progress can be made.

For example, we are aware that not all children learn to read in the same way. Some children benefit from the synthetic phonics approach, however, other children learn from sight reading. Children respond positively to the guided reading approach. Developing an enjoyment in reading is the ultimate goal and this is evident in the children's responses. Children in Year 3 are now seeking out books from known authors and buying these at home. Children in Year 2 are approaching the teacher/ assistants eager to read to them. There are a number of examples that can be used where a different approach or learning style was used but ultimately it comes down to the individual child and how they learn best.

As English is central to all learning it is essential that children are provided with thoughtfully planned teaching that builds on prior knowledge and skills. Planning should be undertaken collaboratively, allowing teachers to share expertise and subject knowledge to ensure the best possible progress. All aspects of English need to be taught directly- spelling, grammar, vocabulary, decoding, comprehension, speaking, listening, writing and handwriting.

Various elements of English can be taught in other subjects, for example, a diary entry in History, a report of the experiment in Science. Also, in other subjects, although the focus will be on the learning challenge for that subject , the English needed to present knowledge should be used accurately and any opportunity taken to consolidate and deepen understanding of English, as a subject. If taught well and developed, English skills can be used in other subjects to help deepen understanding. Being a confident reader can help children to access information from other subjects. Similarly, with writing and speaking and listening children are able to articulate their understanding in all areas of the curriculum.



Opportunities are also provided for children to use English skills in 'real' situations. For example, presenting poems to the school in assemblies, writing presentations about their work to share with an audience, taking notes in school council meetings.