



LIFTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Statement of Intent for English

Intent

At Lifton Primary School, English and the teaching of English is the foundation of our curriculum. Our main aim is to ensure every single child becomes primary literate and progresses in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Teachers at Lifton Primary School recognise that each child has their own starting point upon entry to every year group and progress is measured in line with these starting points to ensure every child can celebrate success. English at Lifton Primary School will not only be a daily discrete lesson, but is at the cornerstone of the entire curriculum. It is embedded within all our lessons and we will strive for a high level of English for all. Through using high-quality texts, immersing children in

vocabulary rich learning environments and ensuring new curriculum expectations and the progression of skills are met, the children at Lifton will be exposed to a language heavy, creative and continuous English curriculum which will not only enable them to become primary literate but will also develop a love of reading, creative writing and purposeful speaking and listening.

Implementation

With these aims in mind, first and foremost, reading is explicitly taught at least three times a week in whole class reading sessions from year 3 - 6

and during one English lesson in FS - year 2. Vulnerable groups are highlighted and support staff are used to support these groups further to ensure progression and specific year group skills are secured. Resources to support and enhance these lessons have been purchased so that all staff feel proficient and skilled in delivering these sessions effectively. Through the use of whole class overviews, teachers are ensuring a focus on specific skills each week which not only encourage a better understanding of the comprehension skills they are using but also independence, a love of wider reading and exposure to rich vocabulary, which is an absolute key in all sessions for all learners.

In FS and KS1, reading books have been purchased and matched to be inline with our daily phonics teaching. This ensures that the children are taking home and reading fully phonetically decodable books which encourage fluency and comprehension.

Reading is not only celebrated in classrooms at Lifton, around school you will find displays which celebrate authors, children's favourite books and our summer reading reward scheme. In addition, throughout the school year the importance of reading is enhanced through World Book Day and author and poet workshops which enrich and complement the children's learning.

As we believe consistency and well-taught English is the bedrock of a valuable education, at Lifton we ensure that the teaching of writing is purposeful, robust and shows clear progression for all children. In line with the new national curriculum, we ensure that each year group is teaching the explicit grammar, punctuation and spelling objectives required for

that age group. As well as teaching the objectives, teachers are able to embed the skills throughout the year in cross-curricular writing opportunities and ensure that most children are achieving the objectives at the expected level and that some children can achieve at a greater depth standard. In this sense, assessment of writing is also more fluid as

teachers can assess against a set framework. All year groups use the same format for assessing writing which has been produced in line with the end of Key Stage assessment frameworks as published by the Department for Education.

In order to expose children to a variety of genres which helps to utilise and embed the writing skills, teachers use a learning journey to plan, structure and teach their English lessons. This follows the 'Talk for Writing' approach with the majority of English units containing an immersion, innovation and invention stage. Through this approach, children are immersed in high quality texts and language, which they then build upon and master in the innovation and invention stages. This journey is designed to show progress, teach the pertinent year group objectives, apply and consolidate these skills and develop vocabulary.

Writing is taught through the use of a high quality text, which exposes the children to inference, high-level vocabulary, a range of punctuation and characterisation. Each text is purposefully selected in order to promote a love of reading, engagement and high quality writing from each child.

Impact

The impact on our children is clear: progress, sustained learning and transferable skills. Children will have become more confident writers and by the time they are in upper Key Stage 2, most genres of writing will be familiar to them and the teaching will focus on creativity, writer's craft, sustained writing and manipulation of grammar and punctuation skills. As all aspects of English are an integral part of the curriculum, cross curricular writing standards will have improved and skills taught in the English lesson will have transferred into other subjects; this will show consolidation of skills and a deeper understanding of how and when to use specific grammar, punctuation and grammar objectives. We hope that as the children move on

from us to further their education and learning, that their creativity, passion for English and high aspirations travel with them and continue to grow and develop as they do.