



HAYES MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

CURRICULUM STATEMENT

English at Hayes Meadow

Communication skills are the key to learning and growing. At Hayes Meadow we believe that all children should be taught to speak clearly and articulately and to read and write effectively in order to formulate, reason and communicate their own opinions. Teaching children to be confident and proficient readers is the key priority to enable them to access all areas of the curriculum, to deepen their understanding and their use of vocabulary to express themselves.

- Reading and developing a love of books is at the heart of our teaching and learning. Book Talk- expressing opinions about books begins in Nursery.
- Children have regular story time in all classes to give them the opportunity to enjoy and get lost in a story, read by an adult.
- Children are encouraged to read regularly at home and share books with their family. Bedtime story sacks are sent home and children are also rewarded for reading at home using the Rainbow Reader Badges and Key Stage 2 certificates and prizes.
- We encourage an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage.
- Children are taught to read using systematic, synthetic phonics. At Hayes Meadow we use a government approved scheme.
- Phonics teaching begins in Nursey.
- Reading lessons take place daily for all children linked to the National Curriculum. Quality texts are delivered as a vehicle to teach reading, these are often linked to the wider curriculum.
- Children who need extra support with learning to read receive small group or one to one intervention.
- Children are encouraged to write with a genuine purpose, linked to experiences that they have had. Writing opportunities are also linked to the quality texts which they are studying.
- Grammar is taught through the text where possible so that children can apply their grammatical understanding to real literature.
- We encourage children to make connections between the texts that they read and their own experiences, plus events happening in the wider world.
- Opportunities for pupils to discuss, debate and present their opinions and ideas to each other are at the forefront of our learning. Thus enabling pupils to leave our school with the skills to communicate their own ideas with confidence.