



# The Federation of St Joseph's and St Thomas More Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary Schools



## English: Reading, Writing, PGS and Speaking and Listening Statement

### Intent

At The Federation of St Joseph's and St Thomas More Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary Schools we believe that a quality English curriculum should develop children's love of reading, writing and discussion.

We have created a curriculum that encourages them to become enthusiastic and engaged with English. We have worked hard to provide our children with rich and varied learning opportunities that help them to become confident and enthusiastic learners. We want our children to have a positive attitude towards communication and to be able to independently express their emotions and their ideas. Through our English Curriculum, we strive to teach the children how important their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills will be in the real world.

We encourage all pupils to confidently communicate their knowledge, ideas and emotions through their writing. We want pupils to acquire a wide vocabulary, a solid understanding of grammar and to be able to spell new words; effectively applying the spelling patterns and rules they learn throughout their time in primary school. We want them to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. We believe that all pupils should be encouraged to take pride in the presentation of their writing, in part by developing a good, joined, handwriting style by the time they move to secondary school. We believe that all good writers refine and edit their writing over time, so we want children to develop independence in being able to identify their own areas for improvement in all pieces of writing, editing their work effectively during and after the writing process.

We understand the importance of parents and carers in supporting their children to develop both grammar, spelling and composition skills, and so we want to encourage a home-school partnership which enables parents and carers to understand how to enhance the skills being taught in school.

Teachers have received training in key areas of curriculum change in order to provide outstanding curriculum provision.

Experiences for pupils are:

- Inclusive
- Exciting
- Challenging
- Engaging
- Real and experiential
- Relevant to their context
- Influenced by pupils
- Progressive
- Values-led
- Safe

The curriculum is designed to include:

- A clearly articulated learning journey with a purposeful outcome
- An engaging stimulant for learning



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- Opportunities for pupils to contribute to planning the learning journey
- Real experiences
- Application of basic skills including computing
- Cross-curricular links where they add value

## Implementation

The curriculum at The Federation of St Joseph's and St Thomas More Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary Schools has been designed to ensure that children receive their curricular entitlement in a way which is meaningful to their:

- context
- stage of learning
- capabilities
- interests
- prior experiences

The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

In addition to daily literacy lessons, children excel in early reading through the use of the RWI programme from reception – year 2 and continue to develop a range of reading skills, as well as a love of reading through carefully chosen and engaging texts and through staff modelling and promoting a love of reading for pleasure. We use a wide variety of quality texts and resources to motivate and inspire our children. We also provide a wealth of enrichment opportunities, including: Everybody Writes Day; No Pens Wednesday, Super Learning Days, World Book Day and Writing Journeys.



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The National Curriculum for English is typically delivered using a whole-text approach topic, where possible this complements learning in other subject areas. All children are challenged, appropriate to their capabilities; children who find aspects of their learning more difficult are appropriately supported so that they too are enabled to experience success.

## Impact

- Pupils will enjoy writing across a range of genres
- Pupils of all abilities will be able to succeed in all English lessons because work will be appropriately scaffolded
- Pupils will have a wide vocabulary that they use within their writing across a range of subjects
- Pupils will have a good knowledge of how to adapt their writing based on the context and audience
- Pupils will leave primary school being able to effectively apply spelling rules and patterns they have been taught
- Parents and carers will have a good understanding of how they can support spelling, grammar and composition at home, and contribute regularly to homework
- The % of pupils working at ARE within each year group will be at least in line with national averages.
- The % of pupils working at Greater Depth within each year group will be at least in line with national averages
- There will be no significant gaps in the progress of different groups of pupils



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