



Literacy

Curriculum Statement





Intent

At Loxdale, we believe that Reading and Writing are the foundations for all learning. Literacy teaches our children how to make sense of the world around them through developing their ability to articulate themselves clearly and concisely. It instils the value of reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary. At Loxdale we provide our children with rich and varied learning opportunities that help them to become, engaged, confident and enthusiastic learners. We want our children to have a positive attitude towards communication and to independently express their emotions and their ideas. Through our English Curriculum, we strive to teach the children the importance of their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in the real world. Through their growing knowledge and understanding, our children learn to appreciate the world of words and develop a love for language.

Implementation

At Loxdale we are passionate about reading and highly value 'Early Reading' beginning in Nursery. We use a synthetic phonics programme called 'Read, Write Inc.' produced by Ruth Miskin. Read, Write Inc. is a method of learning, centred on letter sounds and phonics, blending them together to read and write words using these learned sounds in reading and writing. The children learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read. It also allows them to spell easily so that they can focus on the composition of their writing. The children are continuously assessed and grouped in order to make progress. In addition to the Read Write Inc. programme, the children also work on developing their writing skills in class with their own class teacher.

In EYFS reading is immersed in every area of learning, drawing on the children's experiences and what they are read in class. In reading, we teach VIPERS skills (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval and Summary) to cover the key skills children need to become great readers. All of our children have access to high quality reading experiences through a well-stocked school reading library. Teachers also ensure that children regularly read at home and in school. We ensure that children who fall in the lowest 20% of each year group for their reading ability are monitored and supported rigorously to ensure that, by the end of Key Stage 2, all children can comprehend and read fluently. To supplement VIPERS we also ensure that there are engaging texts, pictures and extracts linked to the year group specific topics. We foster a 'love of books' from Nursery to Year 6 and encourage a range of reading for pleasure opportunities.



In writing, we ensure children develop their creativity and aspire to become ambitious writers through using quality texts, visual stimulus, and real experiences. In EYFS the children are immersed in a language rich curriculum and develop key skills for writing sentences. In Key Stage One, we teach writing using Pie Corbett's 'Talk for Writing' approach, employing the three stages of imitation, innovation, and invention to a range of non-fiction and fiction genres. As children move into Key Stage 2, they study a new book each term, which links to a range of writing opportunities. We link our writing context to our curriculum topics and aim wherever possible to write for purpose, by enthusing and engaging the children, such as the use of the GoWrite writing programme in Key Stage 2 and Shakespeare Week. We celebrate Reading and Writing whenever possible through curriculum days, such as World Book Day, Michael Morpurgo Month and Shakespeare Week. We explicitly teach cursive handwriting right from Year 2.

Impact

At Loxdale assessment is an integral part of Literacy. We strive to ensure that our children's attainment is in line or exceeds their potential when we consider the varied starting points of all our children. We measure this using a range of materials, whilst always considering the expectations for each year group. Children will make at least good progress in Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening from their last point of statutory assessment or from their starting point in Nursery. We intend the impact of our Literacy curriculum will ensure our pupils are academically prepared for life beyond primary school and throughout their educational journey. As a result, we have a community of enthusiastic readers and writers who enjoy showcasing their developing literacy knowledge and skills. Our children are confident to take risks in their reading and writing, and love to discuss and share their ideas.

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