



Spennithorne CE Primary School

Literacy Policy

What is Literacy?

Literacy is one of the National Curriculum Core subjects and has a key position in the school curriculum. The ability to develop the use of the English language is crucial for each child's education. It is the main medium through which the rest of the curriculum is learned and taught and the major means by which children interpret the world around them and communicate with other people. We have introduced the Revised Framework for Literacy. All classes have a minimum of 1 hour per day.

Aims

To develop:

- articulate children who are able to express their thoughts and feelings both orally and in the written form
- fluent readers with a love of literature and an ability to use books well
- the children's knowledge of spelling rules

How is it taught?

All children are taught in mixed year groups. They have the opportunity to work independently or cooperate in ability or mixed ability groups if appropriate. The Literacy Framework splits the skills to be taught into

- Speak and listen for a wide range of purposes in different contexts (this includes speaking, listening and drama and role play skills)
- Read and write for a range of purposes on paper and on screen (this includes word recognition and decoding, understanding and responding to texts, spelling rules and organising writing using punctuation accurately)

We use a wide range of resources across the school, which includes textbooks and support books with spelling, grammar and punctuation resources for teachers. Each classroom has a basic set of resources, which can be supplemented with materials from a central source for specific topics. Other resources used to support the strands in the Revised Framework include audio cassettes, videos, TV programmes and computer software

In the Foundation Stage, Literacy skills are taught through sharing big books, synthetic phonics, home reading and group reading. An emphasis is placed on attempting to write using children's own experiences and prior learning (i.e. sounding out words using their knowledge of phonics and visual memory of tricky words).

All children have access to Literacy through the Revised Framework. Children are able to progress from one National Curriculum Level to the next as their individual abilities allow. Supplementary materials are available to cater for children of all abilities including reinforcement activities for the less able such as WAVE 3 resources (ELS, 3LS and FLS) and specialized support for the MAT children.

Literacy is taught as a discrete subject but cross-curricular links are developed and encouraged through carefully planning of the long term framework.

Reading Books

Our reading and guided reading books are banded into different levels of difficulty – each linked to the National Curriculum Levels. Book levels are graded using colour bandings which promote independence in choosing reading material. The books provide a range of reading – including a mixture of reading scheme and 'real' books, both fiction and non-fiction. The school library is constantly being developed to improve the quality of non-fiction resources and develop research skills. Children read every day during a set reading time and as frequently as possible to teachers and other adults. Children are encouraged to take reading books home. Parents are encouraged to share in the development of reading skills by listening to and reading with their

