



Ladywood Primary School: A Literature-led Approach at the Core of our English Teaching

Aims

The English national curriculum states that:

'The overarching aim for English in the national curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written language, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment.'

- We believe the exposure of children's literature within the primary school setting is vital as a rich context for learning; not only within English as a subject but to support building a reading culture throughout the school.
- We use high quality books that offer opportunities for empathy and can aid philosophical enquiry, where children see their cultures, families and relationships reflected, as a means of developing the spoken language requirements through debate, drama and discussion using the issues raised through, and within, the text.

Methodology

By placing books at the core, we are allowing our teachers to use the text as the context for the requirements of the national curriculum. The national curriculum states that:

'This guidance is not intended to constrain or restrict teachers' creativity, simply to provide the structure on which they can construct exciting lessons.'

A context for learning is vital - and this is where our chosen approach can support teachers with ensuring that **objectives for reading and writing, including those for grammar can have purpose.**

We always aim for our writing opportunities to be meaningful and to feel authentic. Whether these are short or long, we ensure the audience and purpose is clear. Teachers provide effective modelling and think out loud in order to encourage discussion, debate and drama. Writing skills are embedded and applied across curriculum areas.

In addition to the English lesson, children from Year 1 onwards also have a separate spelling lesson and in Key Stage 2 an extra grammar lesson within the week, where specific rules can be rehearsed and consolidated. The use of phonics for spelling is taught in daily Read Write Inc. lessons for FS2, Key Stage 1 pupils and any pupils within Key Stage 2 who require phonics teaching.

Writing in role using a range of genres is a key element within our approach and we always model the tone and level of formality. This sits comfortably alongside the following statement from the English national curriculum:

'The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.'