



Ludgvan School – English Curriculum Statement

“Acquiring literacy is an empowering process, enabling millions to enjoy access to knowledge and information which broadens horizons, increases opportunities and creates alternatives for building a better life.”
Kofi Annan (seventh Secretary-General of the United Nations)

INTENT - what we aim to achieve through our English curriculum:

At Ludgvan School we believe that literacy is a fundamental life skill. We believe that a high-quality education in literacy teaches pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and, through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. We teach a broad, balanced and creative English curriculum that links to the real world. We are focussed on all pupils achieving excellent standards in oral communication, reading and writing.

IMPLEMENTATION – how we deliver our English curriculum:

All pupils at Ludgvan School are entitled to a broad and diverse learning experience. For us, literacy is more than being able to read and write. It is about having the cultural literacy, fluency and enjoyment of words that allows them to operate at a high level and engage fully in the world around them.

At Ludgvan School we have an exciting and innovative curriculum, which places English at the very heart. Reading and writing are taught daily across the school. These skills are then applied through their termly theme-based project.

This approach to learning ensures that pupils are motivated to use and apply their reading and writing skills for a real purpose. Our approach ensures that pupils are exposed to a wide range of rich vocabulary, develop a love of reading and writing as well as having the knowledge and skills to be successful in life.

Reading:

- Pupils are taught reading through a systematic synthetic phonics programme, starting with early skills in EYFS and then progressing through the main content. We follow a Systematic Synthetic Phonics programme: Read Write Inc. We use phonetically decodable books to develop children’s confidence in reading and enable them to make links with their phonics learning. We also use ‘real books’ to help children develop their reading for pleasure. Children take books home regularly to share with their families.
- Pupils in years 3-6 have whole class reading sessions to develop key reading skills and strategies. This is taught using the class text. VIPERS is used to structure question about the text. Pupils have regular opportunities to encourage their reading for pleasure, including their class story and other social reading activities.

Writing:

- Pupils cover a variety of writing units during their time at Ludgvan. Each half term, units will include fiction, non-fiction and poetry and will usually link to the class theme or other area of the curriculum (e.g. science) as part of our immersive curriculum. We use high quality texts to inspire writing. Pupil’s writing is celebrated by being published and displayed in class, with everyone’s work on display.
- In EYFS, pupils develop their fine motor skills and use a variety of tools to help develop their pencil grip. They mark make in a range of contexts. Pupils are then taught handwriting, first focussing on letter formation and then moving on to cursive script. Punctuation and grammar skills are embedded in English units to help children contextualise the skills they are being taught. Within a writing unit, the teacher will teach the specific text type and give the children success criteria, including at least one which has a grammar focus. Spelling is taught initially through phonics and then in weekly sessions in years 3-6, following the Spelling Shed scheme. We include lessons which teach specific rules and high frequency words; then children work through a series of increasingly challenging spelling tests.
- Pupils are given individual feedback on their writing through our marking policy.

Oracy:

- Pupils have many opportunities to develop their spoken language skills. In EYFS, children learn key texts through repetition and use these to develop their vocabulary (Drawing Club). Pupils in KS1 and KS2 further develop spoken skills through activities like debates, hot seating and presentations. Talk is an important part of all our learning and talk partners are used regularly and appropriately.

IMPACT – How we will know how successful our English curriculum is:

Pupils will make good progress from their own personal starting points in reading and writing.

- They will have the language to be able to articulate their ideas and emotions to others.
- By the end of KS2, they will be able to read a range of texts fluently and confidently.

- They will read for pleasure and be able to articulate the reasons for the choices they make when choosing the texts they read.
- Our pupils will be able to write clearly and accurately, adapting their language and style for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.
- They will acquire a wide vocabulary and have a strong command of the written word.
- Most importantly, they will develop a love of reading and writing and be well equipped for the rest of their education.