



English Intent

At Roundswell Community Primary Academy we strive to ensure we develop a lifelong love of reading and writing. We have placed reading at the heart of our curriculum so that pupils gain the skills and knowledge to fully access all areas of the curriculum and achieve their potential throughout life. We believe reading opens up a new world for pupils and gives them the opportunity to explore new ideas, visit new places, meet new characters and develop a better understanding of other cultures and the world around them. It is our intention to immerse pupils in the wonders of quality texts to instil a love for reading, a passion for discovery and a confidence to explore their imagination.

Writing is a crucial part of our curriculum. We intend for pupils to be able to plan, revise and evaluate their writing in different genres and for different purposes and audiences. To be able to do this effectively, pupils will focus on developing effective composition and creativity whilst developing an awareness of the audience, purpose and context, and an increasingly wide knowledge of vocabulary and grammar.

We aspire for all pupils to learn to read well using phonics as the prime approach. Phonics are the roots for reading that help our pupils grow to become confident readers with reading for pleasure at the very heart of our reading curriculum. At Roundswell, the teaching of phonics is high priority as we believe that all pupils should progress through the phonics phases with fluency and confidence. A strong phonics basis enables us to ensure all pupils flourish as readers and use these essential tools to access the whole curriculum, to engage and make sense of knowledge and to explore, question and respond to the world.

When handwriting, we aim for each pupil to achieve a neat, legible style with correctly formed letters in accordance with the cursive font. Flow and speed will be developed to eventually produce the letters automatically and in their independent writing style.

It is our goal at Roundswell Community Primary Academy to provide pupils with a high-quality education in English that will enable all pupils to achieve or succeed their potential. We aim for each pupil to speak, read and write fluently so that they have the confidence to communicate their ideas and emotions to others effectively, and become a positive citizen in their community and wider world.

Implementation

On a daily basis our pupils will be constantly exposed to a wide range of high quality texts both in English and across the curriculum to ensure we meet the needs of all learners. Through guided reading and individual reading sessions, we will ensure we develop confidence in pupils' understanding of the text and develop their vocabulary. We will provide opportunities for pupils to read both independently and aloud as well as allowing them the chance to discuss and recommend books they have read to their peers.

All pupils will be provided with many opportunities to develop and apply their writing skills across the curriculum using the Talk for Writing approach. Using this storytelling method to



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learn language through imitation, innovation and invention, pupils will learn words through memorable and meaningful activities. We will follow a planning unit with activities to include the repetition of memorising a text with actions and drama to support the learning of different non-fiction, fiction and poetry texts. Orally learning a range of texts by heart will support our pupils in their attentive listening and oracy skills as well as internalising narrative patterns e.g. plot pattern, characters, settings and events, openings, endings, the flow of sentences and sensory detail and connectives.

At Roundswell, we will ensure that sufficient time will be given to teaching phonics, spelling and handwriting to aid reading and writing. We will use the Read, Write Inc. scheme confidently, ensuring the pace of the clear term-by-term expectations of progress from Reception to Year Two is maintained. We will assess pupils' letter-sound knowledge and word reading each half term and any pupils not on-track will be identified and given extra support immediately. For pupils above Year Two this programme will be continued within regular interventions until the pupils can read fluently. We will also encourage parents to support their child's learning at home with extra practice to develop fluency.

Our younger pupils will take part in activities to develop their fine and gross motor-skills and recognition of patterns and will begin to learn how to correctly hold and use a pencil effectively to form recognisable letters most of which are correctly formed. As pupils progress through the school, they will be given the opportunities to develop their handwriting using the pre cursive style to their full potential at that age. Handwriting will be discussed within and linked to phonics sessions using the Read write inc Handwriting guides. Teaching will continue to guide pupils on how to write letters correctly using a comfortable and efficient pencil grip aiming for pupils to develop a clear, neat and fluent style adapting their handwriting for different purposes such as a neat, legible hand for finished, presented work, a faster script for note making and the ability to print for labelling diagrams etc.

In Nursery we make a strong start to the teaching of Phonics. Initially there will be lots of opportunities to develop stories, nursery rhymes, poems and songs alongside planned talk sessions. Phonics will be introduced in the Summer term.

Throughout the school phonics is taught daily. We use Read Write Inc. to learn phonemes, digraphs & trigraphs in an effective multi-sensory approach. We practice oral blending then blending graphemes into words. As pupils become confident at blending sounds, they are taught the skill of blending sounds mentally and at speed by the use of the RWI system of 'Fred in your head'. Pupils will be exposed to 'alien' words throughout Reception and Year One. Pupils use decodable reading books which are organized in a given sequence so letter-sound knowledge is learnt cumulatively. This consistent and rigorous approach will provide our pupils with the foundations to become enthused readers with a passion for storytelling, literature and vocabulary.



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Phonic knowledge will continue to underpin spelling after Key Stage One. Spelling is taught regularly from Year Two onwards using the RWI Spelling scheme using a statutory word list. This progressive scheme builds on from the phonics teaching to enable pupils to learn spelling rules and to understand relationships between meaning and spelling where these are relevant. During these spelling lessons different strategies are taught to aid pupils in remembering spellings including proof-reading, using mnemonics, looking for patterns, segmentation, Look, Cover, Say, Write, 'have a go' sheets, using a dictionary etc. Teachers regularly assess pupils' knowledge of spelling rules and common exception words and provide a range of words to learn and practise at home.

Impact

Through engaging pupils in high quality teaching and learning, Roundswell Community Primary Academy enables each pupil to have achieve high standards of learning and be secondary-ready. Our pupils will be confident in the art of speaking and listening and to be able to use discussion to communicate. They will be able to read fluently both for pleasure and to further their learning and enjoy writing across a range of genres.

Pupils will find joy in stories, rhymes and poems and develop a love of language and will become independent and fluent readers. This will enable them to access learning across all the areas of the curriculum as well as achieving well in the Year One Phonics Screening Tests and Standardised tests in Year Two and Year Six.

In writing, pupils will have the knowledge, skills and vocabulary to write interesting and informative texts for different audiences and purposes. They will read, write and spell confidently with a good understanding of morphology (meaning of units of a word) and etymology (origin of the word).