Intent

At Speen CofE School, we aim for our children to develop into lifelong, enthusiastic learners who love to discuss, read and write with confidence, purpose and pleasure. These skills are key for children to access all the subjects across the primary curriculum.

We want to inspire children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening, to be able to use discussion to communicate and further their learning.

Implementation

At Speen CofE School, we have embraced the CLPE's Power for Reading approach, ensuring that high quality text is at the centre of what we do. This approach provides opportunities for learning creatively through drama, speaking and listening, share writing and most importantly, it fosters a whole school love of reading and writing. Talk for Writing is used in conjunction with CLPE approaches to build children's skills in imitating language and adopting high quality language in their speaking and listening.

Our writing plans are directly linked to the topics for each term, when appropriate. This ensures that extended, purposeful writing opportunities are planned across the curriculum which will engage and encourage the children with their writing. Through these well-structured sequences the children are also directly taught grammar and punctuation. Handwriting is taught regularly and often incorporated into lessons. Each sequence will cover a new genre, building on prior knowledge and ensuring in-depth coverage. Towards the end of the sequence, the children use the skills they have been taught and apply these to their writing with a final piece, which may then be assessed. Within this piece, children will be given opportunities to plan, structure, draft, edit, write and assess, including peer assessment.

In order to create a positive writing culture, we provide a wide range of activities including the use of ICT, modelled, shared and guided writing, peer assessment and discussion. We provide varied and exciting opportunities for writing for purpose and we encourage pupils to see themselves as authors and poets. We promote the importance of written work by providing a writing purpose and opportunities for children's writing to be read aloud and listened to by an audience. We have developed a range of extra activities which are used to promote English within the school including whole school writing challenges, World Book Day and author visits.

With a focus on our inclusive curriculum, we offer many opportunities for parent involvement in our English curriculum. Parent information sessions are held regularly for phonics, reading and writing which aims to offer guidance to support children at home and to find out more about their children's learning within school. We also provide opportunities for parents to become more involved in our learning through volunteer readers, library visits and shared writing events.

Impact

At Speen CofE School, the impact of our teaching will be seen clearly: in progress, sustained learning and transferrable skills.

Children will:

- By providing a quality English curriculum, we ensure children develop a love of reading, writing and discussion.
- Show an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage.
- Speak clearly and audibly, using an extensive vocabulary, taking account of their listeners.
- Adapt their speech to a wide range of situations, including drama.
- Use discussion and listen carefully in order to learn and understand the main points of what they have heard.
- Become confident, enthusiastic, independent and reflective readers through exploration of a wide range texts.
- Read widely and often for both pleasure and information.
- Be encouraged to write imaginatively and thoughtfully with an awareness of the reader.
- Show resilience, pride and enthusiasm for their work and achievements.
- Gain age-appropriate competency in their use of grammar and punctuation.
- Improve the accuracy and coherency of their writing by planning, drafting and editing.
- Read, write and spell confidently through a variety of strategies, supported by the Little Wandle phonics programme.