Curriculum Intent:

The teaching of English will give every child, regardless of their background, needs or current attainment, the fundamental skills they need to read fluently, write coherently and communicate effectively.

Our aim is for our schools to be reading schools full of avid and enthusiastic readers who care about books and believe that books can be a gateway to knowledge. Our English curriculum aims to help our children learn to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- appreciate a range of diverse characters in books and understand the importance of representation
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas

We provide children with a literacy-rich environment, high quality texts and inspiring learning opportunities such as author visits. We have also introduced class story time every day giving children the opportunity to sit and enjoy listening to a story together.

Our Curriculum Golden Threads - Diversity Drivers, Wellbeing Warriors and Planet Protectors are interwoven throughout lessons.

Curriculum Implementation:

The initial teaching of reading and writing is taught through the Read, Write, Inc. (RWI) Phonics programme, where children learn the underpinning skills to be able to decode to read and segment to write. To ensure consistent coverage across the school, children begin this journey at the earliest opportunity in reception and continue on the programme until they have achieved proficiency in reading and writing.

Children beyond the RWI scheme are taught whole class reading lessons to model and teach explicit reading strategies. This is done using the Literacy Tree scheme, which is a complete, book-based platform that covers all the requirements of the National Curriculum.

Each class has their own designated book area so that children can choose books from their own classroom. These are regularly updated to ensure they include fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.

Children who are fluent readers also undertake termly reading assessments and progress is tracked throughout the school by the Senior Leadership Team.

World book day is celebrated annually in school. During this week we run several activities that encourage children to discover the pleasure of reading including inviting visitors in to share their favourite books and organising sponsored reads and reading challenges

Authors are invited in to work with the children.

Children beyond the RWI scheme are taught writing using the Literacy Tree Scheme. Literacy Tree uses book-based planning sequences, Writing Roots, which embed complete curriculum coverage and engage children to write with clear audience and purpose. 'Teach Through a Text' pedagogy is the backbone of each sequence. Our children love creative writing, and we enter national competitions whenever the opportunity arises, such as the BBC 2 500-word story challenge.

We moderate writing using age related expectations both within our school and through local events. Progress is tracked through school.

The school follows the National Curriculum guidelines for the teaching of speaking and listening.

Curriculum Impact:

The impact and measure of this is to ensure children not only acquire the appropriate age-related knowledge linked to the English curriculum, but also skills which equip them to progress from their starting points, and within their everyday lives. Long term pupils will:

• be confident in the art of speaking and listening and to be able to use discussion to communicate and further their learning

• be able to read fluently both for pleasure and to further their learning. • enjoy writing across a range of genres

• Pupils of all abilities will be able to succeed in all English lessons because work will be appropriately scaffolded

• have a wide vocabulary and be adventurous with vocabulary choices within their writing

• have a good knowledge of how to adapt their writing based on the context and audience

• leave primary school being able to effectively apply spelling rules and patterns they have been taught

• make good and better progress from their starting points to achieve their full potential

Our Golden Threads are interwoven through our Maths Curriculum:



- **Diversity Drivers** –We ensure that our books include a range of diverse characters and settings.
- **Wellbeing Warriors** – We promote reading for pleasure in our school. Studies have shown that reading for just 6 minutes a day can help reduce stress levels.
- **Planet Protectors** – We provide high quality texts that inform about the world we live in. Weekly newspapers keep the children up to date on current issues.

