

# DEEP DIVE:

Curriculum area: English



**'Excellence Every day'**



# INTRODUCTION

Our curriculum is at the heart of our educational provision, offering a broad and exciting daily offer to ignite a love of learning in all of our pupils.

Our vision is focused on ambition, aspiration and progression and this is delivered through our curriculum model.

All of our pupils have the opportunity to experience hands-on learning and experiences which enrich their classroom activities. This may be through trips, external visitors to the schools or virtual experiences as well as workshops. Our aim is to close the gap in disadvantage and offer all pupils an inspiring provision which gives equal access to all.

Learning in **Illuminate Minds Trust schools** is more than the acquisition of skills and knowledge. It is also the chance to widen opportunities and expose pupils to a world beyond their lived experiences. We see our role as preparing children and young people for life and society, helping to build sustainable communities where people care about each other and the world around them.

Every subject area has a curriculum which is constructed carefully around sequential learning, revising prior learning and recognising the links between this and future steps. Embedded within each area are enrichment experiences, references to career choices and links to cultures and backgrounds which reflect our pupil population.

Choice is central to our learning offer. Our schools want to equip pupils with the confidence to make their own choices and exposure to experiences which inform those choices. You cannot consider a path in life of which you are unaware.

In order to grow and develop, it is vital that our pupils have the confidence and motivation to accept challenges and recognise that learning is not always easy. We want our pupils to face challenges without fear and know that they can make mistakes, because life will throw things at them and they have the ability to solve problems and overcome them. Success breeds success. Having confidence through actually seeing you can achieve and you can find a way through difficulties is key in continually building the self-awareness and resilience which will enable our pupils to manage themselves through life. Recognising the value of education and knowing that life is about continual learning means that loving learning from the outset is vital. Our curriculum in every subject is shaped to take children on that journey....

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# CURRICULUM AREA: ENGLISH

## Intent

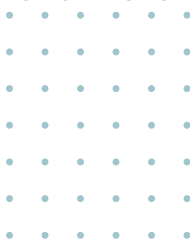
At Illuminate Minds, we believe in a holistic approach to the teaching of English. Our vision is to provide children with opportunities to develop their passion and skill set for reading, writing and oracy in a cohesive way. Our English curriculum is carefully planned so that children become confident and creative communicators, who will be able to use these skills effectively in their future endeavours.

## Implementation

Writing is embedded through our English lessons and across our Wider Curriculum. A core text is carefully selected to give children access to a range of texts which will expose them to rich vocabulary. Each learning journey is carefully planned to enable children to be immersed into their text, analyse, and generate ideas, which leads to the children composing a piece of published fiction and non-fiction writing. All children from Foundation Stage to Year 6 are provided with many opportunities to develop and apply their writing skills across the curriculum. It is our intention that pupils develop a clear understanding of the writing process in order to establish themselves as an author in their own right. Through our English writing teaching sequence, we foster pupils' interest in writing and offer a reason and context for writing which enables the children to write for purpose and audience. Children are taken on a writing journey which builds their knowledge of writing for context and purpose, allowing opportunities for children to explore a variety of genres, plan, draft and re-draft their writing.

## Impact

We want to produce confident writers who are not afraid to take risks and are able to transfer taught skills in a variety of contexts. The children will be intrinsically motivated by a clear purpose for their writing. They will be reflective writers, assessing their own and others' writing. They will have an understanding of the purpose of their writing and the impact that their word choice and style has on the reader. Children will enjoy writing and use the features of different genres and styles. They will be able to write for different purposes and audiences. Children will be proud of their writing and know that others value their writing; they see it celebrated on displays within classrooms and in shared spaces.



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## Cultural Capital

Our writing cycles incorporate opportunities for children to write about their cultural capital. This could include writing a recount about a trip or a set of instructions based around a workshop outcome. We map out numerous celebrations of English throughout the academic year. This includes World Book Day, National Poetry Day and National Storytelling Week. In our schools we have a school library, run by our in-school librarians. Children visit the library weekly to change or return their books, hear a story being read to them or use it for research for other areas of the curriculum.

## Equality and Diversity

Children are exposed to a range of different authors and genres celebrating inclusive and diverse themes. We provide children with model texts which reflect our wider community and provide children with the opportunity to create their own diverse characters within their writing.

## Our SEND Approach

Our writing cycle is mapped out so all children are able to achieve. It is heavily scaffolded initially and over the course of the unit, the support is gradually taken away so that children are able to produce their own published pieces independently. As well as that, Quality First Teaching and adaptations insure that children of all abilities are able to achieve their potential.

