



The English Curriculum at St Peter's School

Information for Parents

The Year 6 Learner

Approach

In English lessons, children are taught speaking, listening, reading and writing skills through studying a variety of styles of writing (genres). Teachers follow the Teaching Sequence for Writing, which means that children will firstly be taught to read and understand the text, then practise the skills of the style of writing (including grammar) and apply into their own writing.

The Primary National Curriculum statements will be taught through the modules below.

Y6 English Coverage

The Year 6 English curriculum consists of the following modules.

- Fiction Genres
- Extended Narrative
- Explanation
- Recounts
- Report
- Persuasion
- Discussion
- Debating Skills

Some key poets/authors your children will encounter are:

- Neil Gaiman
- Anthony Horowitz
- David Almond
- Michael Morpurgo
- Betsy Byars
- Shaun Tan

Recommended reading list (a variety is best):

Carrie's War
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit
Forgotten Voices of the Second World War
The Diamond of Drury Lane
Framed
Homecoming

Nina Bawden
Judith Kerr
Max Arthur
Julia Golding
Frank Cottrell Boyce
Cynthia Voigt



Noughts and Crosses	Malorie Blackman
Knife Edge	Malorie Blackman
Private Peaceful	Michael Morpurgo
The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 $\frac{3}{4}$	Sue Townsend
Treasure Island	Robert Louis Stevenson
Mortal Engines	Philip Reeve
Clockwork	Philip Pullman
Dragon Keeper	Carole Wilkinson
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the NightTime	Mark Haddon
Peter Pan	J M Barrie
Wizard of Oz	F Baum
Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling
The Railway Children	E Nesbit
The Borrowers	M Norton
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
Alex Rider series	Anthony Horowitz
My Story series	Various authors
Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl	Ed. Otto H Frank
Boy Overboard	Morris Gleitzman
Sabriel	Garth Nix

Curriculum Content

Speaking and Listening

Children will be taught to discuss their learning and to develop speaking skills. They will become more familiar with and confident in, using language in a variety of situations, for a range of audiences and purposes. They will, for example

- Develop their understanding of a subject through discussions, learning to give their opinions and listen to other viewpoints.
- Speak clearly and in different ways for drama, formal presentations and debate.
- They will prepare work orally, through drama and role play, discussing, rehearsing and recording their ideas.

Reading

This part of the curriculum is broken down into 'word reading' and 'comprehension'. Word reading will not be directly taught, except where individuals need support. Instead, children will be encouraged to work out unfamiliar words that they meet. They should use their knowledge of word roots and word families to help them to understand new words. Children will be taught key comprehension skills to enable them to read, understand and enjoy a wide range of books. Year 6 will have the



opportunity to read and discuss a wider range of fiction, poetry, plays and non-fiction. They will, for example:

- Identify and discuss themes and conventions across a wide range of writing
- Predict what may happen based on evidence and clues given
- Give responses to texts and recommend books to peers, giving reasons for views and choices
- Use clues from the text to work out characters' feeling, actions or motives and give evidence to back their conclusions
- Discuss and evaluate how authors use language (including figurative language) and consider the impact on the reader.
- Compare different texts

Writing

Writing is developed through teaching the following:

Spelling: Children should learn to spell new words correctly and have opportunities to practise spelling skills. They will be taught spelling patterns and conventions, and draw on their knowledge of word families and roots to help them spell new words correctly. They will continue to practise and use the words included in Appendix 1 of the National Curriculum for years 5 & 6. Children will be expected to use a dictionary and thesaurus.

Handwriting: Pupils will continue to be taught handwriting in order to increase speed, fluency and legibility.

Composition (structure): This includes vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. To develop their composition skills, the children will be taught to

- Plan, draft, compose, edit and evaluate their writing
- Use a wide variety of punctuation and grammar features with confidence
- Refine their grammar and vocabulary to further develop the effectiveness of their writing
- Use a wider range of techniques to build detail into their writing and ensure it flows smoothly throughout the sections of a piece.
- Build on their understanding of the differences between Standard and nonStandard English, and will also focus on how to achieve different levels of formality in their spoken and written language.
- Adapt writing for a range of purposes and audiences as part of their work across the curriculum. In year 6 this will include autobiographical writing in History and explanation writing about invented species in Science.

Grammar will be taught throughout the writing process and teachers will follow the terms and concepts of Appendix 2 of the National Curriculum.

Should you wish for a more detailed explanation, please follow this link to the [Primary National Curriculum document](#)