



Vocabulary, Grammar & Punctuation



Vocabulary is a crucial part of children becoming confident and competent writers. A good grasp of vocabulary will help children to articulate and explain what they think and enable them to ask the right questions to learn more.

Implementation

Across the Federation, vocabulary is introduced before they are taught it in both English lessons and in the wider curriculum as far as possible. High quality texts that are rich in vocabulary are used in English lessons and enthuse children to experiment with new and exciting vocabulary. Games are an important tool that we use to help consolidate what the words mean and how to use them in context. Children are taught from an early age how to use a dictionary and thesaurus to enable them to become more independent learners when seeking new and exciting vocabulary for their written work. Furthermore, the independent use of word mats, display words and the 'Descriptosaurus' all contribute to children achieving exceptionally well in their writing.

Our emphasis on a vocabulary rich curriculum is evidenced by our subject vocabulary maps, pupil work and the learning environment. Pupils are taught ambitious vocabulary in all subjects to enhance their knowledge and gain a greater understanding of the topic/ concept being taught.

Throughout their time in our schools, children will grow their vocabulary and will be asked to articulate and justify their answers and opinions, to give well-structured descriptions and to participate actively in conversations. As their command of the English language grows, so will their confidence.

Having a good knowledge of grammar and punctuation allows our children to communicate effectively and is an essential part of the writing process. This lifelong skill is taught progressively within each year group and children are given opportunities to showcase their skills through the English and wider curriculum.

The teaching of grammar and punctuation is planned for and taught through our quality text based learning in English lessons. In addition, each class delivers daily basic skills sessions which cover: grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading skills and handwriting. These are used to consolidate previous learning, introduce new concepts and ensure children are becoming independent in the application of these skills. We develop their skills in grammar and punctuation using a wide range of games and written activities. It is an expectation that all children from Year 1 are taught specific grammar terminology and application so they develop confidence and competence in the skills from an early age. These skills are revisited in all years to cement their knowledge and understanding.

Impact

We believe our children will:

- Understand the importance of correct grammar and punctuation in their speaking and writing.
- Develop and use a rich and varied vocabulary in both their conversations and written work.
- Use their knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to achieve in other areas of the curriculum not just English lessons.
- High quality literature opens the children up to seeing in context the correct use of grammar and punctuation and develops their growing bank of exciting and ambitious vocabulary.