



# Downs Infants Curriculum Statement

## English



“Reading and writing cannot be separated. Reading is breathing in; writing is breathing out.” – Pam Allyn

Intent	Implementation	Impact
What will take place before teaching in the classroom?	What will this look like in the classroom?	How will this be measured?
<p>At Downs Infants we believe that a quality English curriculum should develop children’s love of reading, writing and discussion.</p> <p>We aim to inspire an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage and a habit of reading widely and often and for great pleasure!</p> <p>We recognise the importance of nurturing a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts.</p> <p>We want to inspire children to be confident in the art of speaking and listening and to be able to use discussion to communicate and further their learning.</p> <p>We believe that children need to develop a secure knowledge-base in English, which follows a clear pathway of progression as they advance through the primary curriculum.</p> <p>We believe that a secure basis in literacy skills is crucial to a high quality education and will give our children the tools they need to participate fully as a member of society.</p>	<p>We have a rigorous and well organised English curriculum that provides many purposeful opportunities for reading, writing and discussion. Teachers adapt a cross curricular approach. Our curriculum closely follows the aims of the National Curriculum for English 2014.</p> <p><i>As an infant school, we pride ourselves on high quality interactions with children that may include questioning, challenging and supporting This way we know that we meet the needs of <b>all</b> of our children. This may not evidenced as such, but is clearly evident in everyday practise and from children’s outcomes.</i></p> <p>The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● read easily, fluently and with good understanding</li> <li>● develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information</li> <li>● acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language</li> </ul>	<p>As a result we have a community of enthusiastic readers and writers who enjoy showcasing their developing literacy knowledge and skills. There is a ‘buzz’ around reading in the school with children asking, “When is it book assembly?” They are confident to take risks in their reading and writing, and love to discuss and share their ideas. Our attainment at the end of EYFS, and KS1 is currently above that of Brighton and Hove and the national average.</p> <p>We strive to ensure that our children's attainment is in line or exceeds their potential when we consider the different starting points of all our children. We measure this using a range of materials, whilst always considering the expectations for each year group. Children will make at least good progress in Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening from their last point of statutory assessment or from their Baseline assessment.</p> <p>We intend the impact of our English curriculum will ensure our pupils are academically prepared for life beyond Infant school and throughout their</p>

- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- 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
- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

In addition to daily English lessons, we use a wide variety of quality texts and resources to motivate and inspire our children. We also provide a wealth of enrichment opportunities, from visiting authors to encouraging and celebrating children who enter writing competitions to story time evenings. We have a new library opened before and after school and we have our own 'reading army' (parents, relatives and friends from our school community) who support many children with their reading.

We aim, in conjunction with parents to give children a rich diet of '5 a day' (stories and other texts). These all help to ensure that children benefit from access to positive role models from the local and wider locality.

educational journey. At Downs Infants we strive to foster a love for reading and writing and an interest in doing it for pleasure. We also strive to ensure that pupils work hard to ensure that children will be able to produce written work in all areas of the curriculum of a similar standard.