

## English

At Guilsborough C of E Primary School, we aim to provide good communication skills for our children through promoting positive attitudes, nurturing self-confidence and encouraging and stimulating a love of English.

The teaching of English is delivered through the 'Novel Study' approach from year 1 to 6. The approach enables a focused text to be taught per term or half termly and incorporates all of the National Curriculum strands. Within this, teachers also seek to take advantage of opportunities to make cross-curricular links. They plan for pupils to practise and apply the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired through English lessons to other areas of the curriculum.

Learning takes place through a range of genres and activities. Prediction and inference of characters and events are explored which develop strong reading comprehension skills. The children access the books at school in carefully planned sections so that the highest level of understanding can be achieved. This feeds directly into their writing, spelling, grammar, vocabulary and punctuation skills.

The classroom environments are transformed into a visual stimulus for each new novel which creates an immersive atmosphere. This adds to the learning journey and provides opportunities for drama and other practical activities.

Handwriting is taught through Kinetic Letters which involves developing the core strength through physical activities. The class teachers listen to each child read on a weekly, basis they are also expected to read regularly at home. Spellings are given out with monthly homework tasks and spelling rules and patterns are taught within planned English lessons.

The children in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) work towards their Early Learning Goals in line with the EYFS curriculum. Phonics is a strong focus throughout EYFS and Key Stage 1 and this forms the foundations for their English teaching. For more information about Phonics, early reading and early writing see Our School/Phonics and Reading.