



# How English SHINES - Our Vision

## The Shine Curriculum in English

**S -Stimulating enquiring minds by providing rich and relevant experiences, purposeful and connected learning, and creative thinking.**

- Our English curriculum stimulates children's enquiring minds through a range of high-quality texts on our Reading Spine.
- Children's creative thinking and teachers drive and passion for English ensure a strong foundation for a life-long love of English.
- At Highfield St Matthew's, children's literature experiences are just as important as physical experiences. Our vision is that books allow you to 'dream with eyes wide open.'
- Our Reading Spine allows for children to experience rich and relevant encounters through the themes and imagination of high-quality texts.
- Children's creative and enquiring minds are stimulated through all aspects of the English curriculum. Children's creative thinking and creative flair for the subject can be applied, particularly through writing, speaking and listening and performance opportunities.
- Learning is purposeful and connected through well-structured and carefully sequenced lessons and units of work. Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar are linked through themes from the overall text-driver. Children are then able to apply their knowledge and skills across all aspects of the English and wider curriculum.

**H -High expectations and excellence delivered rigorously through well sequenced subjects, progression in generative knowledge, rich vocabulary, concepts and skills, so pupils know more and remember more.**

- High expectations of the English curriculum are delivered and modelled by all staff.
- Children develop core English skills through a rigorous and bespoke English curriculum which is progressive and well-sequenced; this provides opportunities for children to learn more and remember more through a clear Long Term Plan, meaning children can apply their skills independently.
- Reading and vocabulary are promoted throughout the wider curriculum and 'Word of the Day' activities. Long Term and Medium-Term Plans ensure that subjects are well-sequenced and build up to clear learning outcomes.

**I – Inclusivity and flexibility which allows us to cater for individual needs, abilities and interests.**

- Within the Early Years Foundation Stage, the curriculum is structured around the children's interests and based around themes and topics.
- Across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, the Reading Spine is well balanced, allowing us to cater for individual needs, abilities and interests.
- Support and scaffolding of learning ensures no child is left behind.

**N -Nurturing strong, lifelong learning behaviours- resilience, risk taking, independence, perseverance, and pride in success.**

- Reading is the key to unlock all learning. A love and passion for reading is promoted through engaging and well stocked libraries where children can be part of a library experience when choosing books to read.
- The school environment is literature rich and a love for English and books is promoted by all staff.
- Children are supported through a structured and sequenced English curriculum where children take pride in their work, their presentation of their writing, and develop resilience in building skills such as phonics and reading.

**E -Encompassing the whole child- developing their faith, values, spirituality, health and well-being and understanding the world we live in, their future in our culturally diverse community and country where equality and tolerance is promoted.**

- Our English units are carefully chosen to develop the whole child and promote reading through other cultures, cultural characters and texts from Bibles and different faiths.
- Children use and apply their English knowledge, skills and language within everyday life and life long skills are developed as a result.