

**“Giving children the keys to unlock their future”**



## **St Peter's C of E Academy - Reading**

At St Peter's we value reading as a key life skill. When teaching Reading, we aim to provide children with a literacy-rich environment, high quality texts and inspiring learning opportunities. We want children to have the skills to decode words in order to be able to read fluently and with understanding. We want children to read widely across fiction, non-fiction and poetry to unlock their learning and imagination. We aim to foster a life-long love of reading and books. We want to stimulate the children's imaginations and instil a lifelong love of reading, through reading to learn and gain information, and reading for pleasure.

### **Teaching of Reading**

In EYFS and KS1, we follow the Unlocking Letters and Sounds phonics scheme. Children participate in daily phonics sessions where previous learning is consolidated, and new skills are practised and applied in a structured and engaging way. Children are provided with reading books that match and support their phonics development and ability. Across the school, children have daily opportunities to develop skills and to read a variety of material independently, through whole class or guided reading sessions. In KS2, and later in the year for year 2, we use the VIPERS approach to teach skills in reading. We cover a wide range of non-fiction, fiction and poetry texts linked to the wider curriculum. The VIPERS acronym stands for **V**ocabulary, **I**nference, **P**rediction, **E**xplain, **R**etrieval, **S**ummarise. Reading at home is encouraged and promoted through our 'Read, Read, Read' scheme.

### **Reading for Pleasure**

As part of our whole school love of reading each class has weekly access to the school library. We have carefully planned book corners which are inviting and stimulating for children to explore a range of text types and where possible links to the topics being taught and the wider curriculum. We have timetabled slots where adults read to children modelling fluency and prosody. We also celebrate World Book Day, have book fairs and author visits to enrich our reading provision further.

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### **St Peter's C of E Academy - Writing**

At St Peter's we want pupils to be able to communicate their knowledge, ideas and emotions through their writing. We want pupils to acquire a wide vocabulary, a solid understanding of grammar and be able to spell words effectively applying the spelling patterns and rules they learn. We ensure that children develop an understanding of how writing is used in everyday life and, therefore how important and useful the skills are that they are learning. We want all our children to be capable writers who can write for a range of purposes and transfer their English skills to other curriculum areas.

Our writing teaching follows the National Curriculum, supported by a clear knowledge and skills progression that makes connections between new learning and prior knowledge.

We teach through a text-based approach allowing our pupils opportunities to develop their composition, spelling and grammatical skills through engagement with high quality books. We use our own bespoke writing curriculum developed in collaboration with the Blue Kite Academy Trust. We also use art, film, music and real-life scenarios as a stimulus for writing. Pupils are taught the correct letter formation and encouraged to use a neat joined, handwriting style and take pride in the presentation of their writing. We want the pupils to see themselves as authors and poets and their writing is displayed around the school to give purpose and audience and to show that work is valued.