

# Wave Trust English Curriculum

Our English curriculum is underpinned by our WAVE values:



**Be positive:** We have the highest expectations of what our pupils are capable of, no matter what their starting points, and no matter how many fresh starts. Through our Curriculum offer, we will strive to develop unique talents; build confidence; character, aspiration; attainment and at KS4, also qualifications. We aim to prepare pupils for their next steps, and life in modern Britain. **We believe every child can learn to read.**



**Have empathy:** We seek first to understand, then to be understood. Through our curriculum, we will develop empathetic learners who have an awareness, understanding and are considerate of themselves; their peers; our communities; as well as of the world around us all. Through the power of stories in each AP's English Curriculum, pupils are encouraged to consider issues from new perspectives and there is a body of educational research linking the study of story to the development of empathy. *"In reading, you get to feel things, visit places and worlds you would never otherwise know. You learn that everyone else out there is a me, as well."* N. Gaiman.



**Show respect:** Our curriculum will support of students to respect themselves, each other and teach an understanding and awareness of diversity. In English, teachers carefully select texts to ensure pupils see themselves and diverse worlds through 'windows' and 'mirrors'.



**Work as one team:** Our curriculum gives our students opportunities to work collectively together, through opportunities to talk, listen, and create. We will draw on every opportunity for learning, both planned and unplanned, to develop pupils' ability to reflect, engage and relate positively to one another. In English, through our small classes, and planned opportunities to discuss and debate issues, as well as present viewpoints and listen and respond, we ensure there are planned opportunities to discuss and debate issues, as well as present viewpoints and listen and respond.



**Be inclusive:** We will strive to ensure our curriculum is accessible and meets the needs of all our learners. Not one size fits all, but skilfully adapted to meet individual need and SEND/SEMH need. Through careful assessment and small group teaching, teachers adapt the curriculum without lowering expectations.

As well as the above, our 'Golden threads' underpinning the development of spoken language, reading and writing throughout all phases are below:

We aim to support pupils to:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- increasingly at Secondary, appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage through a book-based approach throughout all phases
- 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; pupils will be supported to be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- to be increasingly competent in the arts of speaking and listening, knowing how to argue and explain and put across a point of view,
- Reengage pupils with English, particularly where older pupils may be struggling with reading and accessing the curriculum in joining us at AP

# English Intent Statement

Our English Curriculum from Key Stage 1 through to Key Stage 4 aims to reengage pupils, move them forward from their starting points, so as to be able to more effectively reintegrate and access the curriculum, whether returning to mainstream, specialist placement, or as lifelong readers and communicators in post 16 destinations. Central to our core, our curriculum is underpinned by the three pillars of reading, writing and spoken language, and developing the latter being particularly important within our SEMH context, and our small group settings. In AP, we know that many of our pupils may have experienced difficulty with reading and literacy, and our mission is to forensically seek and understand the gaps in learning, in order to bridge them effectively. As such, our curriculum structure places various emphasis on different curriculum goals as pupils gain expertise\*. We aim to inspire an appreciation of story at the heart of our English curriculum, with daily story time and opportunity for reading. Through books, we not only celebrate our rich and varied literary heritage, but enable pupils to learn about diverse experiences and other cultures. We nurture a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly, imaginatively and accurately and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts. We inspire and support pupils to be confident talkers, speakers and listeners; to be able to ask questions and to use discussion to communicate and further their learning in all areas of the curriculum. We aim to close the language gap where it exists, and build pupil's vocabulary and confidence with using and choosing words, so that pupils have the tools they need to communicate in the world. Ultimately that they can read, write and speak....to understand, and to be understood. As capable readers, writers and speakers...to connect and to belong.

\*Ofsted Subject Report 2022

## Primary English Curriculum

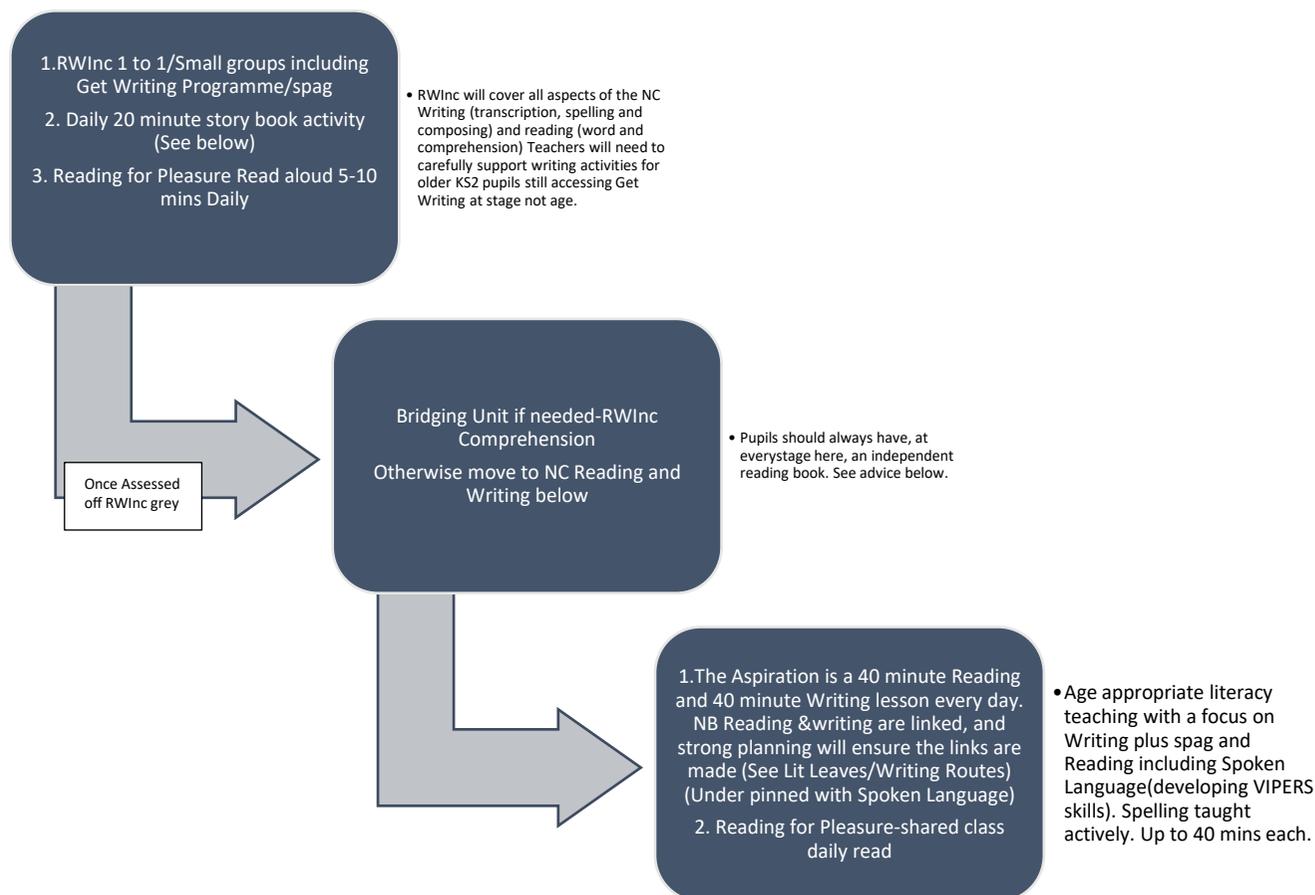
Trust schools follow the Read Write Inc Phonics and Get Writing curriculum. This provides the structure that can support teachers implement the National Curriculum effectively, and where pupils in our Academies often arrive in Alternative Provision working below Age Related Expectations, and at very different stages. TAs are highly trained using the Ruth Miskin Online Training portal, and Reading Leads support coaching and quality assurance so that all pupils can receive expert teaching according to their assessed stage.

As well as daily phonics, and Get Writing to support spelling, punctuation and grammar, pupils' talk and language is developed through Book rich taught sequences. Here pupils get to hear and discuss books, develop vocabulary and language, and their comprehension. This is particularly important all pupils, but for older pupils in Key Stage 2, where pupils may still need the support of the SSP but who need to hear stories and language above the level they can yet read for themselves. This book led

and whole text approach enables pupils to be immersed in the world of story, and this planned Reading Spine is available for each Academy below.

Pupils are taught in discrete Reading and Writing Lessons as an approach that continues post SSP. Teachers will plan to move pupils forward in terms of the NC objectives, adapting sequences and closing gaps in spelling, punctuation and grammar, whilst. We also ask Reading Leads to ensure in every classroom there is a protected Reading for Pleasure opportunity. More details on each Academy's Primary English curriculum, including their Reading Spine, are in their own Academy section below.

### English Primary Curriculum Implementation Model...



# Secondary English Curriculum

Continuing from our core intent as set out at the beginning of this document, in Secondary, English will expose students to the full beauty of the English language, exploring a wide range of themes, genres and cultures to create a culturally rich, immersive learning experience. Our aim is to nurture effective communicators, readers, writers and thinkers. We strive to challenge our learners to think deeply, to develop rich subject knowledge and to master a firm foundation of literacy skills to enable them to become well-rounded citizens who will contribute effectively to the community and the wider world around them.

## Key Stage 3

### Implementation

Teachers plan schemes of work\* which are based upon the non-negotiables below but also personalised to address the needs of the pupils that they are teaching. Teachers should build on the knowledge and skills that pupils have been taught at key stage 2. As per direct the National Curriculum. Decisions about progression should be based on the security of pupils' linguistic knowledge, skills and understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Pupils whose linguistic development is more advanced should be challenged through being offered opportunities for increased breadth and depth in reading and writing. Those who are less fluent should consolidate their knowledge, understanding and skills, including through additional practice. Pupils need to hear language in texts they cannot yet read and in line with the intent above, no matter what starting point. That is why we have a class novel as part of the non-negotiable so there is story every day. For older pupils still in the early stages of learning to read, focus should be on supporting oral composition when writing responses to text, so that the explicit reading objectives of the national curriculum can be the focus including developing vocabulary, inference, prediction etc. In terms of developing writing, and in building automaticity and fluency, teachers will again carefully plan to support both transcription and composition so that progress and challenge are both effectively supported. For this reason, it is very important that English leads on the ground create planning around this Trust overview curriculum plan for Key Stage 3, and attend to both reading, writing and spoken language, being well informed of Key Stage 3 progression model and objectives, as well as Key Stage 3. There is a list of suggested texts and linked texts below, though planning around this sits with teachers.

Our core non-negotiables are that pupils will cover over 2 years for those who remain with us for that period of time:

Reading: Poetry; Literature from other cultures; whole class novels; speeches; extracts from a wide range of genres/fiction and non-fiction texts; Contemporary and 19<sup>th</sup> Century writing; the story of Shakespeare and extracts from plays; non-fiction in the form of blog, a diary, review, letter, speech, article, leaflet, advertisements, web pages. Per half term, there should be one book studied. Books will be carefully selected in line with intent above. Teachers will actively teach reading in terms of the reading National Curriculum Objectives, (reading critically etc, developing language) and cognisant of the KS2 National Objectives for reading for pupils working well below Age Related Expectations.

Writing: For a range of audiences and purposes including • stories, scripts, poetry and other imaginative writing • notes and polished scripts for talks and presentations • a range of other narrative and non-narrative texts, including arguments, and personal and formal letters. In planning, per half term, with approximately 21 guided learning hours for those taught 4 x a week, we aim for there to be at least 2 extended written tasks in teachers planning, with sequences towards these final outcomes, which encompass developing reading objectives.

Spoken Language: Spoken language should be taught and planned for so that pupils make progress with language as a central pillar of all English. Pupils should have opportunities to speak to inform, express a view, argue, persuade, ask questions, discuss, listen and respond, interact positively and confidently with peers and adults; social cues. Planning regarding this should be very explicit in KS3 teachers planning at Key Stage 3. We expect pupils to have opportunity to be taught and assessed formatively for spoken language in line with the NC objectives each half term.

The English Advisory Lead will be able to advise you on books and planning. It is important you are able to explain why you have chosen the books that you have, why you have sequenced them in this way, and how knowledge builds for individuals through your planning, from an accurate assessment of their starting points.

\*English Leads in Secondary choose their own Texts and are responsible for their own Schemes of Learning. For English Leads who need a full curriculum and associated planning, they are directed to the Quest Key Stage 3 Curriculum.

## **Key Stage 4**

Pupils study for AQA English Language and AQA English Literature

English Leads in the 11 Trust schools will make decisions around which set texts, and the timings of unit delivery. Some Academies also run Functional Skills.

Beyond the syllabus, we actively teach reading, with reading for pleasure throughout the week, and Story Time-where teachers read aloud to pupils.

Fresh Start phonics is used for those pupils assessed as in need.

Pupils receiving the full core offer in centre in our Regional APAs receive English lessons daily where possible on the timetable, and at least 4 times where not. The small class provision is an intervention in itself, and we are able to teach pupils at the point of writing.

## **Assessment in English**

### **Baselining;**

Primary: All pupils will be screened for phonics on entry, unless information from the referring school suggests otherwise in that they are assessed as off SSP, though staff will triangulate. Pupils in need will be placed on the appropriate part of the SSP.

Pupils Word reading is assessed through the Read Write Inc SSP and recorded half termly on the 'New in Blue' trackers. For pupils assessed as off the SSP programme, their progress will be monitored termly through the termly diagnostic NGRT.

Teachers should keep internal records of progress and assessment against NC objectives.

Pupils' entry for SATs is a decision to be reached with Principals.

The Baseline in English at Secondary is determined by the first independent pieces of writing pupils complete, as well as broader reading comprehension. The teacher will set this at a time they deem appropriate and within first few weeks where possible.

Pupils Reading, Writing and Spoken Language is assessed regularly in Secondary and Primary through the use of Formative trackers which enable teachers to keep a detailed record of granular progress to inform planning. Teachers will also set practise tests and summative tests at appropriate times within their half termly units where necessary. Summative data linked to Level Descriptors are collected every term, and teachers will use a range of sources to support their awarding of a Level.

### **Primary and Secondary:**

SENCOs lead on Dyslexia screening (including spelling screening) and SCLN screening where this is deemed necessary and advise from there on strategies to support further, and with involvement of the SALT.

### **Reading**

Secondary Pupils will be screened on entry using NGRT in behaviour and Medical AP, and thereafter termly, unless reading at 125 SS plus. Glendinning use Star reader, not NGRT, due to the design of their curriculum/prior investment. Pupils post SSP will also be screened and progress assessed termly through NGRT.

Phonics and reading fluency can be screened through the Fresh Start SSP screening process where needed, and progress tracked within the scheme.

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## **English at Penwith APA.**

English at Penwith AP **Secondary** underpins the Wave mission statement of progressing the social, emotional and academic outcomes for all of our pupils to enable them to achieve their true potential. Our focus is on engagement and often reengagement, with the ultimate aim of significantly changing our pupil's lives for the better.

At Key Stage 3 the curriculum reflects the National Curriculum, with time and attention spent on identifying prior knowledge and skills as well as emerging needs. We focus on the three main elements in English: reading, writing, and spoken language, using a broad range of seminal world and British fiction, and non-fiction texts to contextualise knowledge and skills. We aspire to inspire, facilitate, and nurture curiosity, academic resilience and a lifelong love of learning in all of our pupils. Some of the short stories, books and plays we study are: Beowulf, Coraline, A Sound of Thunder, and Macbeth, as well as poetry and non-fiction texts such as Touching the Void. We build skills and confidence by starting with shorter and simpler texts such as: The Landlady and The Speckled Band, progressing onto longer more challenging books like The Book Thief and The Maze Runner later in the academic year.

2023/24 KS3 Class Readers/topics:

- Beowulf
- The Outsiders
- Shakespeare
- Poetry
- Media
- Treasure Island/Of Mice and Men

At Key Stage 4 the curriculum is focused on the nationally expected outcomes for pupils of this age. We study AQA GCSE English Language and AQA GCSE English Literature, which is in line with our neighbouring schools. The knowledge and skills we develop are based around the assessment objectives for these subjects and specifications. GCSE texts are selected on the basis of which will offer the most enrichment for our pupils.

2023/24 GCSE Texts:

- An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley
- A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
- Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare
- Poetry Anthology: power and conflict cluster

We also offer pupils the opportunity to study towards: Step Up to English, Functional Skills English Levels 1 and/or 2 primarily in KS4. This is a nationally recognised qualification with parity with GCSEs, Level 2 equivalent to a GCSE standard pass at grade 4.

In our **Primary Department** the priority is to foster a love of reading and to help our pupils place an importance on reading for themselves as we show them that it is a key to learning. In our Primary department at Penwith Academy, our priority is to build confidence and competence in reading, to foster a love of reading and to help our pupils to place an importance on reading for themselves as we show them that it is a key to learning. We maintain a strong fidelity to the Read Write Inc. Systematic Synthetic Phonics scheme, which we deem to be the most effective method of teaching early reading to our pupils. This is supported by coaching and support from Kernow English Hub and



	<p><i>Skygazing</i> Anna Claybourne and Kerry Hyndman</p> <p><i>When the Stars Come Out</i> Nicola Edwards</p>	<p><i>When the Stars Come Out</i> Nicola Edwards</p> <p><i>Mythologica</i> Dr Stephen P. Kershaw</p>	<p><i>The Listeners</i> Walter de la Mare</p> <p><i>Poems from a Green and Blue Planet</i> Sabrina Mahfouz</p>	<p><i>Poems from a Green and Blue Planet</i> Sabrina Mahfouz*</p> <p><i>The Explorer</i> Katherine Rundell*</p> <p>*to fit in with SATs practice</p>	<p><i>Fly Me Home</i> Polly Ho Yen*</p> <p><i>Black and British: A short, essential history</i> David Olusoga*</p> <p>*to fit in with SATs practice</p>	<p><i>Real-life Mysteries: Can you explain the unexplained?</i> Susan Martineau and Vicky Barker</p> <p><i>Beetle Boy</i> M. G. Leonard</p>
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