



Tweedmouth West First School

Our English Curriculum

Respect Responsibility Resilience

Speaking and listening

We ensure that the children have many opportunities to speak during lessons. This may be to discuss an idea with peers, to work collaboratively to find a solution to a problem, or to present something to a wider audience. Through enquiry work, the children are taught how to listen and respond to an idea, by saying 'I agree with you because ...'

Reading

Reading is given high priority both in school and at home for the children. We believe that reading is the cornerstone of all other curriculum areas.

Reading is taught daily in shared and guided reading groups. Parents are encouraged to read regularly at home with their children.

When beginning to read, the children follow the RWI scheme, moving on to a wider range of books once they are off the ground.

We believe that children should read, but also that they have regular opportunities to be read to. To ensure that children have a rich, high quality variety of literature read to them, each class has a box of books which are specifically for that purpose.

Phonics

We use the RWI scheme to teach phonics. Children are taught in small, ability groups every day. They work on the specific sounds and blends that they need to know. These groups are regularly assessed, and the children move groups as they progress.

LINK - RWI phonics information

In Year 1, the children have a statutory phonics screening.

Spelling

We have a set of 'non-negotiable' words in each class which are based on the common exception words.

The children have regular spellings to practice, which they share at home.

Writing

Children are given daily opportunities to write within a range of genres across the curriculum. This gives them opportunities to become fluent, confident writers. Every week in our 'Writing for Pleasure' session, children are able to write freely, and so learn their own preferences.

We use a range of sources to assist writing, including CLPE materials, based on a high quality text.