

English at Dorney School

Reading, Writing and Communication are central to the Curriculum offered at **Dorney School**. Reading, Writing and Communication is taught in both a subject specific and cross-curricular way.

Aims:

- To provide a language rich environment that promotes a culture of reading and writing;
- To develop in pupils an interest in and a love of books and literature that will not only support their learning across the curriculum but also enrich their lives;
- To value and use books as a basis for learning, pleasure, talk and play;
- To teach children the craft of writing in order to develop in children the confidence and skills to write well for a range of purposes and audience;
- Teach the basics – grammar, spelling, handwriting and punctuation - to liberate creativity;
- To foster in pupils the confidence, desire and ability to express their views and opinions both orally and in writing;
- To value and celebrate diversity in culture and language

Speaking and Listening

The strands of Speaking and Listening: Speaking; Listening; Group Discussion and Interaction, and Drama permeate the whole curriculum. Interactive teaching strategies are used to engage all pupils in order to raise reading and writing standards. Children are encouraged to develop effective communication skills for the 'here and now' and in readiness for later life. Dorney children use discussion across the curriculum in order to learn; they have opportunities to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas and develop competence in the arts of speaking and listening and making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

Reading

At Dorney School we encourage a love of reading and determine to teach every child to read, regardless of social and economic circumstances, the ethnicity of pupils, the language spoken at home and SEN or disabilities. We are accountable for the progress and success of our children. Unless children have learnt to read, the rest of the curriculum remains a secret garden to which they will never have access.

We believe that good readers make good writers and so we actively support Pie Corbett's 'Talk for Writing' approach. Reading as a reader and reading as a writer are both necessary pre-requisites to independent writing. We actively encourage children to choose, read, share and enjoy real books and online texts.

Remember to look in your Home School Reading Record for recommended reads.

Writing

Writing is a primary means of expression, both for personal cognitive purposes and for communicating meaning with others. We teach the children to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.

Pupils learn how to write with confidence, fluency, imagination and accuracy across a range of text types. They acquire a wide vocabulary and grammatical knowledge. Children learn a knowledge of phonics, word recognition and graphic knowledge (word level at Key Stage 1) and a wider range of spelling strategies at Key Stage 2.