**Our English Intent**

Here at Stathern Primary School, it is our intention when delivering the English curriculum to do so in an exciting, engaging and creative manner. In doing so, our pupils will acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills to equip them for the future and encourage them to become lifelong learners. The English curriculum is taught daily, in addition to cross-curricular links and opportunities, from Reception through to Year 6 and aims to develop pupils’ abilities to communicate their emotions and ideas successfully through reading, writing speaking and listening.

**Speaking and Listening**

We believe that it is essential our pupils learn and develop the skills to communicate effectively. We encourage them to use talk to explore ideas and feelings and to listen and respond to others, including in pairs and in groups. Children are given regular opportunities to experience talking within role-play and drama to explore texts, ideas and issues.

**Reading**

We place great emphasis on reading as an essential skill and as a source of enjoyment. From Reception, children are encouraged to listen to stories and to enjoy looking at books. They will have experience of traditional, nursery and modern poems, rhymes and stories and simple non-fiction texts. They will be taught to recognise the names and sounds of the letters of the alphabet as well as to read a range of familiar and common words and simple sentences independently.

As children progress through the school, they are encouraged to read a wider range of genres and more challenging texts. Opportunities within the class to share text beyond their own chronological reading age are created through whole class shared text and novel based curriculum planning. This broadens vocabulary, models reading fluency and skills and fosters a love for reading. Through guided reading sessions children are given the opportunities to develop their comprehension skills beyond the literal and to extend their own vocabulary.

Writing

From Reception, children are encouraged to express their own ideas in a written form in order to communicate with others for different purposes. Children progress from making simple marks on paper to recognisable letter shapes. They learn the alphabet and letter sounds and begin to spell the first high frequency words.

During Key Stage 1, children will progress to writing phrases and sentences and spelling more complex words. They will begin to develop a sense of audience and improve the quality of their writing across a number of genres. Children will be provided with the opportunities in other curriculum areas to reinforce and enhance their writing whilst building writing stamina. As their journey through the key stage progresses, they will learn additional spelling rules to spell more complex words.

By the end of Key Stage 2, children will have gained a wider vocabulary and will have a developing sense of the art of writing. They will have experienced writing in a range of genres and for a variety of purposes, using grammar and punctuation effectively. They will understand the importance of register and manipulating grammar to ensure appropriateness of a piece of writing. They will be able to plan, write and edit longer pieces of writing to ensure cohesion and features appropriate to the genre are incorporated in order to convey meaning effectively.