

Class 1 English

English teaching and learning at Beaufront First School is based on a multi-stranded approach.

In Class 1 systematic phonics teaching underpins all reading and writing work. Security of knowledge of phonics for both writing and reading is established at every stage of the phonics programme. Detailed knowledge of the children ensures that they are taught precisely the skills that they need during daily phonics session. As these skills become embedded the teaching of spelling rules and grammar assume ever more importance.

Alongside this detailed word and sentence level work, pupils are engaged by hearing, sharing and discussing a wide range of high quality texts. Individual reading takes place daily and focussed teaching of reading by guided reading takes place weekly for all Class One pupils. We have a wide selection of individual reading books and guided reading texts which are constantly kept under review by our specialist Literacy staff.

We use cursive writing throughout the school and find that this facilitates not only fluent writing, but builds spelling confidence and security.

To teach writing, we follow a “reading through to writing” and a “talk through to writing” approach. This enables the children to deconstruct texts and sentences to understand the writer’s craft and then practise their own skills orally as they put pencil to paper themselves. We start each unit of our teaching of writing with a really interesting and engaging text.

Children in Class one are expected to take part in regular English homework which is designed carefully to reinforce the individual skills of each child.

The tables below give an overview of the specific skills taught to each year group.

Year One Programme of Study.

Reading	Writing	Grammar
Match graphemes (spelling patterns) for all phonemes (sounds).	Name letters of the alphabet.	Leave spaces between words
Read accurately by blending sounds.	Spell very common “exception” words.	Begin to use basic punctuation: . ? !
Read words with very common suffixes.	Spell the days of the week.	Use capital letters for proper nouns.
Read contractions and understand purpose.	Use very common prefixes and suffixes.	Use common plural and verb suffixes
Read phonics books aloud.	Form lower case letters correctly.	
Link reading to own experiences.	Form capital letters and digits.	Speaking and Listening.
Join in with predictable phrases.	Compose sentences orally before writing.	Listen and respond appropriately.
Discuss significance of title and events.	Read own writing to peers or teachers.	Ask relevant questions.
Make simple predictions.		Maintain attention and participate.

Year Two Programme of Study.

Reading	Writing	Grammar
Develop phonics until reading secure.	Spell by segmenting into phonemes.	Use . ! ? , and ‘
Read common suffixes.	Learn to spell common exception words.	Use simple conjunctions.
Read and re-read phonic appropriate books.	Spell using common suffixes, etc.	Begin to expand noun phrases
Read common “exception” words.	Use appropriate size letters and spaces.	Use some features of standard English.
Discuss and express views about fiction, non-fiction and poetry.	Develop positive attitude and stamina for writing.	
Become familiar with and retell stories.	Begin to plan ideas for writing.	Speaking and listening
Ask and answer questions; make predictions.	Record ideas sentence by sentence.	Articulate and justify answers
Begin to make inferences.	Make simple additions and changes after proof reading.	Initiate and respond to comments.
		Use spoken language to develop understanding.

When pupils become secure in these skills they will be given opportunities to “master” them in a wider range of contexts and with increasing independence before moving onto the next programme of study.