

HDL: English Curriculum overview



Subject Statement:

At Woodfield School we provide an inclusive and nurturing English curriculum that meets the needs of pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, Autism and associated learning needs. Through carefully chosen texts and meaningful learning experiences, we develop confident readers, purposeful writers, effective communicators and curious learners who are prepared for life beyond school.

Our curriculum is carefully sequenced to provide clear progression from early communication, phonics and decoding through to confident reading, purposeful writing and Functional Skills. Learning is planned from each pupil's individual starting point, enabling all learners to build confidence, independence and self-esteem while making meaningful progress.

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum. High-quality novels, poetry and non-fiction texts develop vocabulary, comprehension, cultural capital and critical thinking, while providing authentic contexts for speaking, listening, grammar and extended writing. We aspire for all pupils to achieve a reading age of at least nine before leaving Woodfield School, enabling them to participate confidently in everyday life.

Spoken language underpins all aspects of English. Planned opportunities for discussion, questioning, collaboration and presentation enable pupils to develop vocabulary, express ideas confidently and become effective communicators.

Explicit phonics and spelling teaching are central to our Lower School curriculum through the Bug Club Phonics programme, supported by targeted interventions, including Rapid Plus Reading, where appropriate.

Across the school, English is delivered through high-quality teaching, carefully sequenced learning and ongoing assessment that informs adaptive teaching. We ambitiously prepare our Upper School learners for Functional Skills English from Entry Level 1 to Level 2, equipping them with the literacy skills needed for further education, employment and independent living.

	AUTUMN 1	AUTUMN 2	SPRING 1	SPRING 2	SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
Orange Cycle 1	Letters and sounds, alphabet and letter familiarity Blending sounds, letter recognition. Letter groups Bug Club Phonics Fairytales: Sleeping Beauty		Reading common exception words Reading simple phrases Letter-sound correspondences Developing reading fluency Fairy tales: The Gingerbread Man The Three Little Pigs		Introduction to storytelling cont. Fairy Tales: Goldilocks	Bug Club Phonics

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Orange Cycle 2	Letters & sounds progression and building, alphabet and letter familiarity embedding. Blending, letter sounds expansion Letter groups. Bug Club Phonics Jack and the Beanstalk	Bug Club Phonics Reading common exception words Reading simple phrases Letter-sound correspondences Developing reading fluency. Bug Club Phonics Red Riding Hood	Reading statutory spellings - EYFS and Year 1 Story telling continuation and narratives, listening to stories and reading for pleasure. Bug Club Phonics Hazel and Gretel
Cherry Cycle 1	Reading – Decoding – Bug Club Phonics Comprehension Spelling – 100 most common words Composition – Saying what we want to write Nouns, vowels, consonants, sentences & basic punctuation (!, ., ?)	Reading – common exception words, GPCs and endings (s, es, ed, est) Comprehension – rhymes & poems Spelling – prefixes & suffixes Composition – sequencing sentences, handwriting digits 0-9 Capitals, full stops, ? and !	Reading : stories for pleasure Comprehension – Dragon Eggs Stories Composition – sentences and handwriting Capitals, full stops, singular and plural
Cherry Cycle 2	Reading – Bug Club Phonics progression. Comprehension Spelling – common exception words, first 200 most common words. SPAG – sentence construction. Comprehension and inference. Composition writing. Introduction to short novels: Pet sitter series	Building on Spellings – Statutory Words Years 2-3 Comprehension – non-fiction texts Building on sentence sequencing and understanding. Introduction to short novels: Pet sitter series	Reading: storytelling Reading for pleasure, reading aloud and reading for comprehension and vocabulary. Introduction to short novels: Pet sitter series
Conker Cycle 1	New words Planning to write Prefixes & suffixes Structure of stories Different types of text Cursive handwriting SPAG	Explaining the meaning of new words Create settings, characters and plot for a story, headings and sub-headings Commonly misspelled words Prepare a poem for performance Prepare a play for performance	Word reading Explain the meaning of new words Reading new words Comprehension Evaluate and edit my work and other people's Dictionary work

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		Join up letters and cursive writing Adverbs, conjunctions & prepositions Literature – The World’s Worst Pets – David Walliams	Non-fiction Discussion around books read Write dictated sentences Composition Understand how the language, structure and presentation add meaning to text Join class discussions Handwriting Cursive handwriting SPaG Punctuate direct speech Use the correct nouns and pronouns
Conker Cycle 2	Use headings and sub-headings Use the possessive apostrophe. Ask questions to help understand a text. Infer information about the feelings, thoughts and motives of characters. Predict what might happen from details stated and implied. Summarise the main ideas in a text of more than one paragraph.	Evaluate and edit work checking for SPAG errors. Check words in a dictionary. Tell how the language, structure and presentation add to the meaning of a text. Join in with classroom discussions. Write in cursive handwriting smoothly and legibly. Punctuate direct speech.	Evaluate other people’s work. Read work out loud. Find and record information from non-fiction. Write dictated sentences. Begin to write with joined up letters. Write in cursive handwriting smoothly and legibly. Use the correct nouns and pronouns.
	Look at Well Being through the topic Escapes and Dreams to recognise, name and express feelings Explore non-fiction biographies and Inventors looking at verbs and adverbs.	Literature – Mr Stink by David Walliams. Writing and reading humorous stories, SPAG, using expanded noun phrases for impact.	Compare and analyse poems about nature. Seamus Heaney poetry. Use fronted adverbials, possessive apostrophes.
Oak Cycle 1	TEXT/VIDEO Text: How to Wash A Woolly Mammoth (link to History) Video: The Catch (Literacy Shed) Text: Letters (Literacy Shed Non fiction texts Year 2 Letters & Lit Shed Y3 Letters	Currently under review	

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	formal and informal text talk/conjunctions to extend sentences) SPaG - Capital letters - Sentence types - Imperative verbs - Prepositions - Expanded noun phrases - Time conjunctions - Fronted adverbials - Dialogue - Adverbs - Informal and formal language - Conjunctions to extend sentences - Contractions - Sentence types				
Oak Cycle 2	Currently under review				
Maple Cycle 1	Understanding character and viewpoint Novel - War Horse Reading • Retrieval • Inference • Prediction • Character development • Vocabulary in context Extended Writing Outcome • Diary entry • Formal letter • Newspaper report SPaG • Relative clauses (introduction)	Understanding people in history Novel – Street child or adapted version of Oliver Twist Reading • Inference • Historical context • Comparing fiction with fact Extended Writing Outcome • Biography • Information report • Newspaper SPaG • Paragraphs • Relative clauses (application) • Expanded noun phrases	Reading and writing non-fiction Reading Choice of text: The Explorer – teamwork, resilience and adventure. A Kind of Spark – neurodiversity and inclusion Reading focus: Comparing texts Purpose Audience Bias	Writing summer 1 Information report Examples:	Writing summer 2 Choice of:

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	• Modal verbs • Formal and informal language • Parenthesis • Cohesion	• Cohesion • Formal vocabulary	• Horses in WW1 • How life changed during WW1 • An important historical figure Grammar • Organisational devices • Headings • Sub-headings • Relative clauses (editing) • Paragraphs • Formal vocabulary	• Character viewpoint • Magazine article • Recount Grammar • Cohesion • Editing • Proofreading • Vocabulary choice • Sentence variety • Punctuation revision
Maple Cycle 2	Novel – Holes Extended Writing • Character analysis • Book review • Formal letter SPaG • Parenthesis • Relative clauses (mastery) • Cohesion across paragraphs • Formal vocabulary	Novel – The boy at the back of the class Extended Writing • Speech • Balanced argument • Newspaper article SPaG • Passive voice • Modal verbs • Cohesive devices • Colons	Novel – Wonder Extended Writing • Comparative response • Magazine article • Personal reflection SPaG • Editing for audience and purpose • Vocabulary precision • Sentence variety • Punctuation for effect • Proofreading	

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Palm Cycle 1 Functional skills	Reading, comprehension and SPAG Rapid Readers where required Weekly Ten-Minute Tests to embed learning across the year	Speaking, listening and communicating	Reading, writing, comparing and analysis of texts, SPAG.	Reading, comprehension and inference in a range of texts	Reading and writing, Applying spelling, punctuation and Grammar. Literature – Macbeth – language and inference.
Palm Cycle 2 Functional skills	As above, a rolling programme as the pupils work through Functional Skills Exams from EL1 to L2. Weekly Ten-Minute Tests in from Functional Skills workbook and statutory spellings to embed learning across the year.				