



**Longcause Community Special School**  
**English Curriculum Intent**

**Intent**

At Longcause we want our pupils to develop functional reading and writing skills in order to be as independent as possible in life after Longcause. We begin teaching reading and writing using the Read, Write, Inc programme. Reading, writing, thinking, and spoken language are all incorporated into the RWI programme, to ensure the daily development of children's comprehension and wider literacy skills. Pupils are encouraged to take their own meaning from each text, becoming independent and critical thinkers. Comprehension activities are designed to help children to infer, summarise, question, clarify, predict and argue a point of view. The children also make connections between texts and their own experiences and an enjoyment of and engagement with a variety of texts is encouraged.

**Implementation**

English is taught daily for an hour in all classes across the school. All classes partake in storytime each day, to promote an enjoyment of reading and development of wider vocabulary. Three times per year, all pupils complete a 'progress write' in a separate book to show their writing development throughout the year. These books follow the pupils throughout their time at Longcause and demonstrate the progress that has been made throughout their school journey. All pupils have an English exercise book, which they use for their writing daily. Book expectations are clear and we maintain high standards within these.

Within the RWI Programmes, pupils:

- Develop a deep understanding of what they read: complete texts by leading authors are introduced using a three-step approach.
- Learn grammar in context allowing pupils to use it with understanding: grammar banks are provided to support teacher knowledge.
- Learn to articulate their thoughts and ideas clearly to one another: they learn how to present and debate; to reason and justify their answers.
- Learn to write confidently by following our highly supportive three step approach, building upon the story or non-fiction text they have studied.
- Write every day.

Once pupils have completed the Read, Write, Inc phonics programme, they then move on to the RWI Comprehension programme, followed by the RWI Literacy and Language programme.

Within these programmes, pupils:

- Continue to develop their reading, writing and spoken language skills.
- Partake in whole class shared reading to give them the skills to comprehend every text and the confidence to write ambitiously and accurately.
- Learn grammar in context, with a comprehensive grammar bank to build knowledge.
- Develop their vocabulary using drama and discussion.

Our pupils working above the levels of these programmes, go on to complete the ARK Mastery programme.

Within the ARK Mastery programme, pupils:

- Learn to better understand the concepts of literature and writing.
- Improve grammar and syntax understanding.
- Close the word attainment gap with a focus on tier 2 words.

Pupils at KS4 are given the opportunity to gain a qualification at a level appropriate to them.

**Impact:**

- We want our pupils to be more equipped to manage their environment beyond and outside of Longcause.
- We want our pupils to make clear progress in English.
- We want our pupils to benefit from the promotion and encouragement of the enjoyment of reading and writing beyond the curriculum.
- We want pupils to leave Longcause ready for the next step in their academic learning and personal development, underpinned by a secure foundation in literacy skills and the most ambitious and appropriate qualifications to support this.