



English at Hall Meadow

Phonics and Reading

At Hall Meadow Primary School, we are committed to the delivery of excellence in the teaching of Phonics. We aim to develop each child so that they are able to read with fluency as well as develop a love of reading that will stay with our children all their lives. Being able to read is the most important skill children will learn during their early schooling and has far-reaching implications for lifelong confidence and wellbeing.

The use of phonics is one of the many skills needed to be able to be a reader and writer. We aim to teach high quality phonics to ensure the children have the best start possible in reading and writing. The learning of phonics is the beginning of a child's body of knowledge, skills and understanding, that are an essential part of learning to read. In order to read and understand texts, children must learn to recognise/decode the words on the page. Good quality phonics teaching allows the child to be secure in the skills of word recognition and decoding which allows children to read fluently. This will result in children being able to read for pleasure and will allow them to move on to develop higher order, reading for meaning skills. These phonic skills need to be taught systematically and involve a variety of resources for all learners.

Our children are entitled to a Phonics curriculum which enables them to:

- Gain a progressively deeper understanding of the phonetic structure of the English language.
- Apply their phonic knowledge and skills to decode unfamiliar words fluently and accurately.
- Read rapidly to apply what they have learned across the whole curriculum.

- Create fluent readers, confident speakers and willing writers.
- Develop a lifelong love of reading.

We are currently transitioning to Read Write Inc for the teaching of Phonics.

Spellings

At Hall Meadow Primary School, we encourage our pupils to think and write creatively, be adventurous with their use of language and to write with clear purpose and for pleasure. In order for these aims to be realised, it is essential that our pupils learn the knowledge and skills to spell accurately. Children who can spell feel confident and are able to write with enjoyment. We want our pupils to be equipped with the knowledge and range of strategies for learning spelling and to be able to apply their strategies when spelling words in their independent writing. Our teachers enjoy exploring and investigating the patterns and contradictions of the English language and we encourage the children to take delight in what they discover.

Writing

Our children follow a writing journey to support them in becoming independent and fluent writers. We use a range of resources to support this starting with a modelled text, focusing on features, planning and writing the final piece. Our children are encouraged to edit their work; checking for spelling mistakes, missed punctuation and age appropriate grammar and vocabulary to 'up level' their work.