

St Leonard's English Statement



Article 13

Every child must be free to say what they think and to seek and receive information of any kind as long as it is within the law.

Article 17

Every child has the right to reliable information from the mass media, television, radio, newspaper and other media should provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

Article 28

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free. Secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's human dignity. Wealthy countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 29

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Aims

At St Leonard's Primary School, we believe that English is a fundamental life skill. English develops children's ability to speak, listen, read and write for a wide range of purposes. Children are enabled to express themselves creatively and imaginatively as they become enthusiastic and critical readers of stories, poetry and plays, as well as learning a wealth of knowledge gained through reading non-fiction texts. They develop an understanding of how language works by looking at its patterns, structures and origins. Children use their knowledge, skills and understanding in speaking and writing across a range of different situations.

We aim:

- To enable children to speak clearly and audibly and to take their listeners into account.
- To encourage children to listen with concentration, in order to identify the main points of what they have heard and enable them to summarise what they have heard.
- To show children how to adapt their speech to a wide range of circumstances and demands.
- To teach children effective communication, both verbal and non-verbal, through a variety of drama activities, including the communication of their ideas, views and feelings.
- To help them become confident, independent readers, through an appropriate focus on word, sentence and text level knowledge.
- To develop enthusiastic and reflective readers, through contact with challenging and substantial texts.
- To develop their understanding of a text through focus on comprehension.
- To develop a love of reading.
- To foster the enjoyment of writing, and a recognition of its value.
- To encourage accurate and meaningful writing, be it narrative or non-fiction.
- To encourage writing at length and develop writing stamina
- To encourage enjoyment of writing, allowing for ownership over writing and its purpose and audience.
- To develop a wide ranging and adventurous vocabulary, exposing children to language across the curriculum and words that they are not familiar with.
- To enable children to become competent and confident when spelling a variety of words to improve the planning, drafting and editing of their written work.