

# The Year 3 Learner

## Approach

In English lessons, children are taught speaking, listening, reading and writing skills through studying a variety of styles of writing (genres). Teachers follow the Teaching Sequence for Writing, which means that children will firstly be taught to read and understand the text, then practise the skills of the style of writing (including grammar) and apply into their own writing.

The Primary National Curriculum statements will be taught through the modules below.

## Y3 English Coverage

**The year 3 English curriculum consists of the following modules:**

Fiction:

Traditional Tales – Fables  
Writing and Performing a Play  
Traditional Tales – fairy tales  
Adventure Stories

Non-Fiction:

Recount  
Instructions – giving directions  
Explanations  
Reports  
Persuasion

Poetry:

Limericks  
Haiku, tanka and kennings

**Key poets/authors your children will encounter are:**

Anthony Horowitz, A.A. Milne, Anne Fine, Jon Scieszka, Sally Gardener

**Recommended reading list:**

The Railway cat	Phyllis Arkle
Flat Stanley	Jeff Brown
The Secret World by Polly Flint	Helen Cresswell
Mrs Cockle's Cat	Philippa Pearce
Mrs Pepperpot Stories	Alf Proysen
Clever Polly and the Stupid Wolf	Catherine Storr
The Cat in the Hat	Dr Seuss

## **Curriculum Content**

### **Speaking and Listening**

Children will be taught to discuss their learning and to develop speaking skills. They will become more familiar with and confident in, using language in a variety of situations, for a range of audiences and purposes. They will, for example

- Develop their understanding of a subject through discussions, learning to give their opinions and listen to other view points
- Speak clearly and in different ways for drama, formal presentations and debate.

### **Reading**

This part of the curriculum is broken down into 'word reading' and 'comprehension'.

At this stage, word reading skills (including phonics) will continue to be taught, but the main focus will be helping children to understand what they are reading (comprehension). In comprehension children will be taught key skills to enable them to read, understand and enjoy a wide range of books. They will, for example:

- Listen frequently to stories, poems, non-fiction and other writing.
- Ask and answer a range of questions about a text
- Discuss ideas that are not obviously described in a text eg 'Explain why the character behaved in this way.'
- Describe characters, summarise plots and predict what might happen next
- Explore themes and conventions in a range of books eg good versus evil
- Consider the effect of the author's choice of language
- Offer opinions about what they have read and justify their views

### **Writing**

Writing is developed through teaching the following:

**Spelling:** Children should learn to spell new words correctly and have opportunities to practise spelling skills. They will begin to learn and use the words included in Appendix 1 of the National Curriculum for years 3 & 4. They will be taught spelling patterns and conventions, building on the spellings taught in Year 2.

**Handwriting:** This will continue to be taught, building on the joined writing started in Year 2 and with the aim of increasing consistency and fluency throughout their independent writing.

**Composition** (structure): This includes vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. To develop their composition skills, the children will be taught to

- Plan, draft, compose, edit and evaluate their writing
- Use an increasing range of sentence structures

- Write sentences that include when, where and why something happens
- Write for a range of purposes and audiences as part of their work across the curriculum.
- Check whether their work makes sense

Grammar will be taught throughout the writing process and teachers will follow the terms and concepts of Appendix 2 of the National Curriculum.

Should you wish for a more detailed explanation, please follow this link to the [Primary National Curriculum document](#)

For further information, please refer to the Year 3 class page on the website for the latest curriculum newsletter. Otherwise, please talk to your child's class teacher who can give you more detail.