



ENGLISH CURRICULUM

What we teach?

At Bishops Itchington, we work hard to provide our children with a rich, exciting and varied English curriculum aligned to the National Curriculum. We want our children to have a positive attitude towards communication and to be able to independently express their emotions and ideas.

We strive to teach children the importance of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills and how these are used in the real world. By giving learning a meaningful context, children understand the value of English both now and in their future lives.

We teach all aspects of English in line with the National Curriculum, ensuring children develop strong knowledge and skills in:

- Oracy, speaking and listening
- Phonics and reading
- Grammar and vocabulary
- Writing

We understand the value of a varied and expanding vocabulary and provide children with opportunities to explore, understand and use new language across the curriculum.

How we teach

We know our children well and listen to their literacy preferences and interests. We use high-quality texts with rich language and engaging characters to inspire curiosity, encourage questioning and immerse children in their English learning. Our aim is to develop confident, enthusiastic learners who take ownership of their literacy journey.

We make English learning enjoyable and engaging for all learners. Children are taught to speak clearly, listen attentively and confidently share their ideas, often working collaboratively with talking partners to develop their thinking.

Our engaging phonics programme, **Monster Phonics**, enables pupils to develop early reading skills through a multi-sensory approach that builds confidence and enjoyment.

Storytelling and drama are used throughout the school to explore characterisation, deepen understanding of texts and generate ideas for writing. We encourage children to take pride in their work, understand the purpose of their writing and write with increasing stamina and consideration for their audience. Opportunities to share, reflect on and discuss their work with peers are embedded within classroom practice.

We also make meaningful links beyond the classroom by inviting authors into school to work with children and share their experiences, helping to bring the world of literature and writing to life.

To further promote a love of English, we offer a range of enrichment opportunities including:

- Termly Reading Challenges
- World Book Day celebrations
- Termly English trophies
- Story Time twice a week ks1/ks2
- Author visits
- Writing and reading competitions

These experiences help foster a lifelong love of reading, writing and communication.

Impact

By the time children leave Bishops Itchington, they are confident, enthusiastic communicators who can read fluently, write effectively and express themselves clearly for a range of purposes and audiences. They develop a genuine love of reading and can discuss texts thoughtfully, drawing on a rich and varied vocabulary.

Year One Phonics screen 2026: 94% compared to national average of 81%.

2025 Year 6 SATs reading: EXS+ 74% GDS 23%

2026 Year 6 SATs reading: EXS+ 67% GDS 37% [adjusting figures for disapplied pupils = EXS+ 74% GDS 40%].

2025 Year 6 SATs writing: EXS+ 84% GDS 13%

2026 Year 6 SATs writing: EXS+ 70% GDS 20% [adjusting figures for disapplied pupils = EXS+ 78% GDS 22%]

Children volunteer to become librarians in Year 6.

Other pupils co-ordinate the Reading Shed in the summer and supervise the reading trolley through the year.

Year 4 won the quiz at the Warwick Reading Challenge event competing against local schools.

McLeod Author visit Summer 2026: Before Author Visit 55% of children [whose parents responded] read frequently for pleasure. Following the author visit, 73% read frequently for pleasure.

91% of children [whose parents responded] confirmed that their child has been more excited and motivated to read at home since the author visit.

54% of [whose parents responded] said their child chose to read rather than use their tablet or watch TV.

91% of children [whose parents responded] said their child has talked about the Knights of Louis books at home since the author visit.

Parent voice: *My child has started to read off their own back and sharing books with siblings. More enthusiastic about reading and looking around more grown up books at the library. We have had many Knight St. Louis books at bedtime. Meeting real authors has inspired my child to become an author. My child loved it, especially that the authors took the time to look at the book my child had written.*

Child voice: *Really enjoyed the authors read the book to us. Getting my book signed. It was fun to meet the authors. Loved getting tips on how to draw a dragon.*