National Curriculum Overview- English

Year 6



Reading

- apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes, both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words that they meet
- continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
- reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
- increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books
- recommending books that they have read to their peers, giving reasons for their choices
- identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing
- making comparisons within and across books
- learning a wider range of poetry by heart
- preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform
- checking that the book makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context
- asking questions to improve their understanding
- drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
- summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas
- identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning
- discuss and evaluate how authors use language, considering the impact on the reader
- distinguish between statements of fact and opinion
- retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction
- participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves
- explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates
- provide reasoned justifications for their views

Writing

- use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them
- spell some words with 'silent' letters
- continue to distinguish between homophones and other words which are often confused
- use the first three or four letters of a word to check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary use a thesaurus
- write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed, by choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters
- plan their writing by:
- identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own
- noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research
- in writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings
- draft and write by:
- selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning

- in narratives, describing settings, characters and atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey character and advance the action
- précising longer passages using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader [for example, headings, bullet points, underlining]
- evaluate and edit by:
- assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing
- proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaning
- ensuring the consistent and correct use of tense throughout a piece of writing
- ensuring correct subject and verb agreement when using singular and plural, distinguishing between the language of speech and writing - proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
- perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear
- recognise vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing
- use passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence
- use the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause
- use expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely
- use modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility
- use relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied relative pronoun
- use commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing
- use hyphens to avoid ambiguity
- use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis
- use semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses
- use a colon to introduce a list
- punctuate bullet points consistently
- use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately