

English Policy



Date approved:	INSERT DATE
Approved by:	Directors/CEO/CEA
Date adopted by the MAT (i.e. effective date):	October 2024
This policy is scheduled for review on:	Every 3 years or on updates

Contents

Introduction.....3

1. Aims.....4

2. Vision.....4

3. Intent.....5

3. Implementation.....6

4. Impact.....7



Policy Statement

This policy outlines Manor Multi Academy Trust's ('we' / 'our' / 'us') expectations of our employees' ('you') in relation to the English Policy.

We are committed to equality and value diversity. As such we are committed to fulfilling our Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Duty) obligations and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy should also be applied in accordance with: Staff Code of Conduct, Safeguarding and Child Protection, ICT Acceptable Use Policies and Curriculum Policy. Copies of all policies and procedures can be accessed via the **All MAT Staff** area on Teams.

The Equality Duty requires us to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation.
- Advance equality of opportunity.
- Foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics, such as age, gender, race and faith, and people who do not share them.

If you consider that any of our practices, policies or procedures may be indirectly discriminatory, you should report your concerns and the basis for them to your line manager, who will take appropriate action and ensure that you receive a written response in respect of the concerns that you have raised.

This policy does not form part of your contract of employment. We reserve the right to amend or withdraw this policy at any time.

We are responsible for ensuring the effective implementation of this policy. As part of equality monitoring, we will review and monitor the operation and impact of the policy on a regular basis and in accordance with the policy review date. As part of this monitoring and review this policy will be equality impact assessed.

Scope

This policy applies to employees, workers, agency workers, consultants volunteers and pupils, whether during working hours or otherwise.

Aims & Principles

At East Park Academy, part of the Manor Multi-Academy Trust (Manor MAT), we are dedicated to embedding the "Manor Mindset" into our curriculum. Rooted in integrity, resilience, and excellence, this mindset informs our approach to creating a vibrant, inclusive and inspiring environment in English. This policy highlights how we strive to foster meaningful connections with students, families, and the wider community by encouraging critical thinking, creativity and communication in English. Our aim is to equip every learner with the skills, confidence, and character to engage with literature, language and expression in meaningful ways.

The Manor Mindset motivates us to inspire learners to explore the power of language and storytelling, developing a deep understanding of themselves and the world around them. Through studying a wide range of texts, learners are encouraged to think critically, express their ideas confidently and appreciate diverse perspectives. Effective communication is at the heart of our English curriculum, where learners are supported in articulating their thoughts clearly, collaborating with peers, and reflecting on their learning experiences to ensure their growth is both transformative and enduring.

By providing compassionate support and structured literary challenges, we instil the values of resilience and reflection, encouraging learners to take risks, learn from feedback and continually improve their work through perseverance. Through diverse teaching methods—including reading, writing, debate, and performance—we make English engaging, accessible and relevant, always guided by the Manor Mindset's commitment to excellence. Our approach fosters a culture of creativity, open-mindedness and critical thinking, ensuring that every learner connects deeply with the subject, growing into confident, articulate individuals ready to contribute to a brighter future through the power of words.

Vision

At East Park Academy, our intent for English education is to develop a strong foundation of knowledge, skills and character, empowering learners to contribute meaningfully to their families, community, and the world. Our English curriculum is shaped by the East Park 8 values: Voice, Creativity, Independence, Collaboration, Leadership and Responsibility, Determination, Kindness, and Self-Belief. These values guide our learners' experiences, ensuring they grow into confident, capable and compassionate individuals with a curiosity about the power of language and literature.

We prioritise voice by giving learners the confidence to articulate their ideas and opinions clearly, both in writing and in speech. Creativity is encouraged as learners explore imaginative ways of expressing thoughts, crafting stories and analysing texts. We promote independence by equipping pupils to think critically, conduct independent research and develop their writing style, building resilience and adaptability.

Collaboration plays a key role in English, as learners work together in discussions, peer reviews and group projects to explore diverse perspectives and develop deeper understandings. Leadership and responsibility are fostered by encouraging learners to take ownership of their learning, making thoughtful decisions in their reading and writing and acting responsibly in discussions about different cultures, viewpoints and texts.

We emphasise determination by encouraging learners to persevere through challenging writing tasks or complex texts, helping them develop a growth mindset. Kindness underpins our discussions of literature and language, promoting empathy and respect for the diverse characters, cultures and experiences we study. Finally, self-belief is nurtured as students build confidence in their abilities to analyse, interpret and create, trusting in their skills to contribute meaningfully to the world through language.

Our English curriculum aims to be purposeful, engaging and inclusive, offering access to age-appropriate, challenging content that fosters a love of reading, writing and critical thinking. Ultimately, we strive for every child to leave East Park with a deep understanding of the English language, a curiosity about diverse literary traditions and the knowledge, skills and character to grow both in mind and heart, enabling them to be as happy as they are successful.

Intent

At East Park Academy, we are Authors.

Our English curriculum is carefully sequenced to ensure that learning builds progressively on prior knowledge, guiding learners toward meaningful and impactful literacy goals. From the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), where learners develop early language skills, phonics and a love for stories, to Key Stage 1 (KS1), where they begin to understand sentence structures, explore different genres and express simple ideas in writing, the foundation for literacy is laid.

By Key Stage 2 (KS2), learners advance to more complex reading and writing tasks, engaging with a variety of texts. They refine their ability to analyse characters, themes and language, while also developing their creative writing and non-fiction writing skills. This progression of disciplinary knowledge ensures that learners are well-prepared for Key Stage 3 (KS3), where they will delve deeper into critical analysis, develop more sophisticated writing techniques and explore a wider range of literary genres and themes.

Throughout this progression, we integrate traditional teaching methods with modern educational research to inspire both creativity and critical thinking. Our curriculum equips learners with the language and literacy skills needed to succeed in a constantly evolving world, ensuring they are prepared for both academic success and life beyond school.

We believe that English is an important part of our curriculum because it is a crucial part of the primary curriculum as it forms the foundation for communication, learning, and personal development across all subjects.

We believe that art is an important part of our curriculum because it...

- Develops fundamental literacy skills including reading, writing and oracy.
- Allows us to communicate and express our ideas.
- Develops critical thinking and interpretation skills.
- Contributes towards cultural awareness and empathy.
- Fosters creativity and imagination.
- Builds confidence.
- Prepares us for future learning.

Without English, learners would not be able to:

- Communicate effectively.
- Read and understand texts.
- Develop critical thinking.
- Write and convey ideas.
- Access other subjects.
- Appreciate literature and culture.
- Develop confidence.

Implementation

At East Park Academy, our curriculum incorporates the statutory requirements set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage framework and the National Curriculum but has been designed to go above and beyond this to provide learners with enriching learning opportunities that enhance their cultural capital. Our bespoke curriculum has been personalised to our school's geography and learners' unique experiences.

Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary is also planned for and continually built upon to support children to write.

Our carefully designed schemes of work ensure a progression of English knowledge and skills from Reception to Year 6. English is taught daily in Year 1 – 6 for 60 minutes per day with the addition of a 30-minute Whole Class Reading session 4 times a week, a 15-minute handwriting session 4 times a week and a 10-minute spelling session 4-5 times a week.

- Long term plans are provided for all year groups which encapsulates GOS focus, Spelling focus, Grammar focus and final writing outcomes.
- All year groups are provided with a book spine which allows us to deliver a 'reading into writing,' English curriculum.
- Where possible, the book spine has texts which also support the current curriculum topic mainly for history and geography topics.

We are committed to teaching high quality English lessons that meet the needs of our learners. Across their lessons, children will:

...know	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to decode words and comprehend texts at increasingly complex levels. - The structure writing including grammar, punctuation and spelling. - How to use descriptive language, sentence variation, and rich vocabulary to make writing engaging and effective. - How context, culture and history influence what they read. - A broad and rich vocabulary, enhancing their ability to communicate effectively. - The meanings of words in different contexts and how word choice affects meaning and tone. - How language works, from basic sentence construction to more complex grammatical structures. - The power of storytelling and literature in shaping human experiences and fostering empathy.
...be able to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read fluently, with accuracy and expression, building stamina for reading longer texts. - Write clearly and coherently for a variety of purposes and audiences. - Speak confidently and clearly, using appropriate language for different contexts. - Analyse texts, identifying themes, characters, settings, and plots in literature. - Interpret meaning beyond the surface of the text, recognizing deeper messages, tones, and points of view. - Apply correct grammar rules in writing and speech, including sentence structure, verb tenses, and punctuation. - Use imagination to create original stories, poems, and other creative forms of writing. - Develop skills in drafting, editing, and revising their work, promoting resilience and a growth mindset in the writing process.
...have experienced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Different genres of literature. - Participation in discussions, express ideas, and listen to others' opinions respectfully. - Presenting information and ideas effectively, whether through storytelling, speeches, or group presentations. - Different writing styles, experimenting with tone, mood and narrative techniques. - Insight into diverse cultures, experiences and viewpoints by reading literature from various traditions and backgrounds.

Through high-quality English lessons, learners will develop not only literacy skills but also the critical thinking, creativity and communication abilities they need for life beyond the classroom.

Impact

Formative assessment of a learner's progress takes place during each lesson through questioning, observation and written outcomes. As part of the East Park Academy feedback policy, verbal feedback is given to the learners regularly and over the shoulder marking happens where necessary so that immediate feedback can be given and acted upon.

The impact of our English curriculum at East Park Academy is evident through:

- **Pupil Progress:** An upward trend in reading and writing outcomes, with the majority of learners achieving age-related expectations by the end of Key Stage 2. Our assessment data shows substantial improvements year-on-year.
- **Engagement and Enjoyment:** High levels of learner engagement and a noticeable enthusiasm for reading and writing demonstrated through participation in events such as author visits, book fairs, and writing competitions.
- **Cultural Competence:** Increased awareness and appreciation of different cultures, evidenced by learners' reflections on literature from various backgrounds and their ability to discuss and write about diverse themes and issues.
- **Confidence in Communication:** Enhanced speaking and listening skills, with learners exhibiting confidence in sharing their ideas and participating in discussions. Surveys indicate that learners feel valued and heard in their classrooms.
- **High quality vocabulary evident:** Learners display a variety of tier 2 and tier 3 vocabulary both through oral conversations and written outcomes.

By embedding these principles, our English curriculum not only aligns with the Ofsted inspection framework but also nurtures well-rounded, literate individuals ready to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Breach of Policy

Any breaches of this Policy will be managed under the Trust's Disciplinary Policy and Procedure, which can be located in the **All MAT Staff** area on Teams.