



# Chippenham

## Partnership of Schools

**Parents' information Leaflet –  
English**

The leaflet has been compiled by the English Leaders in the Chippenham Partnership of Schools.



A new National Curriculum has been introduced in September 2014. The changes are aimed at raising standards in all aspects of the National Curriculum in basics such as reading, grammar, fractions and basic scientific concepts; children will be equipped to do more advanced work once they start secondary school.

All schools must publish their curriculum on their school website as from September 2014.

There are four main areas, and in no particular order they are: Spoken Language, Grammar, Writing and Reading.



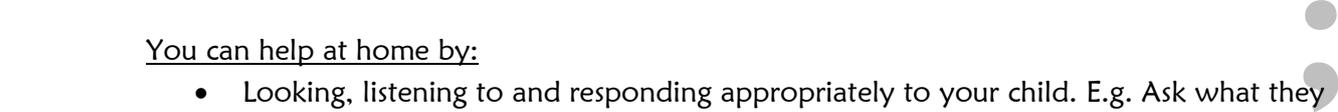
### Spoken Language

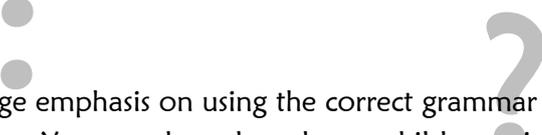
The New National Curriculum reflects the importance of spoken language in pupils' development across the whole curriculum.

Spoken language underpins the development of reading and writing.

Pupils will be taught to understand and use the conventions of discussion and debate in addition to drama activities.

### You can help at home by:

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- Looking, listening to and responding appropriately to your child. E.g. Ask what they enjoyed most about school today, ask questions about their response.
  - Try to ask relevant questions and assist to expand their vocabulary.
  - As much as possible encourage your child to use the correct Standard English. E.g. because instead of cos. should have instead of should of, getting off the bus instead of getting off of the bus
  - Discuss when appropriate to use Standard English and when perhaps not e.g. in a casual peer group situation.
  - Encourage discussions to share opinions and appreciate other viewpoints about topical issues.
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### Grammar

The new National Curriculum has a large emphasis on using the correct grammar in spoken and written sentences and understanding. You may have heard your children using grammatical terminology more frequently at home when reading or writing.

Grammar will be taught regularly as part of the daily timetable throughout the school. Our aim is for the children to demonstrate effective use of grammar, spelling and punctuation in all curriculum areas.

You can help at home by:

- Encouraging them to talk in complete and grammatically correct sentences e.g. I would like those not I would like them.
- Encouraging them to talk and write using the correct tense e.g. because he was late not cos he was late
- Become familiar with the different word classes. E.g. nouns, verb, adjectives and how they can use these effectively when speaking and writing. There is a useful glossary of these terms on our school website to help you with this.
- When reading with your child, encourage discussion about the use of particular words and why they were chosen by the author.
- Highlight and question different use of punctuation found in books and in their own writing.
- Have fun with words and play word games. There are many online resources to support the children with this. Our school website has a list of suggested safe sites to use.

Writing

The new National Curriculum focuses on developing children's skills and fluency in the 2 main areas of writing:

- Articulating ideas and structuring them accurately in speech and writing (this is known as 'composition')
- Spelling and handwriting (this is known as 'transcription')

As they move through their primary education, children will be taught how to plan, draft, revise and evaluate their writing.

You can help at home with writing composition by:

- Encouraging your child to talk in clear sentences about everyday experiences and events.
- Talking to your child and providing them with a good role model of spoken language.
- Exploring books and talking about the words and their meanings.
- Encourage your child to write freely.



## Reading

The new National Curriculum focuses on

- word reading and comprehension, both listening and reading.
  - Phonics is an early tool for teaching reading.
  - Children needing to read a wide variety of texts.
  - Children being able to talk about what they have read.
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Through reading it aims to equip children to be able to...

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding.
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, both for pleasure and information.
- give pupils a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, spiritually and socially.

You can help your child at home by:

- Reading fiction and non-fiction.
  - Reading to your child as well as listening to your child read to you.
  - Discussing with your child what they have read.
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