TALENTS Curriculum

English – Speaking, Listening and Communicating; Reading; Writing – High Level Overview



Intent (Rationale)

Speaking, Listening and Communicating; Reading; and Writing; are essential skills which our learners need to function independently in the world. Our intent for English aligns with our wider school vision which is enabling our learners to understand the world around them, become fulfilled individual's, active and compassionate citizens and have the tools to make a positive contribution to society. To do this successfully they need to be as competent as possible, in line with their ability, in each of the English strands.

We recognise that for learners at the early stages of their school journey and those who continue to work at early developmental stages and whom have complex needs, communication is the imperative foundation and fundamental building block onto possible access to, and success in, the other strands (Reading and Writing). Therefore, this strand holds great weight particularly at the early stages of a young person's learning journey, and throughout their pathway.

For those learners that can read (surpassing reading as a means of communication) and write words, we intend for them to have at least the basic reading and writing skills to function as independently as possible and to complete independent living tasks, as well as enabling access to employment, where appropriate. We aim for our learners, where appropriate, to be able to write in a way which is legible, fluent and fast. Equally, we recognise that we are living in an ever-changing society with technology being used in all environments, therefore we intend for our learners to be confident in typing on an electronic device, alongside ensuring the skill of writing by hand is not lost or impacted. For those learners who are verbal, we intend for them to have the vocabulary to say what they want to say and the ability to structure their thoughts so that they make sense to others.

We recognise all learners at Kennel Lane as individuals, with varying needs and abilities, therefore intent can be explained with greater accuracy when talking about learners on an individual basis. We support learners where they are in their learning journey, ensuring our expectations are realistic yet ambitious.

Implementation (How)

Pre-formal learners: All strands

For the majority of learners in EYFS, KS1 & The Woodlands Hub, English is not taught as a discrete subject but opportunities to teach, practice skills and provide experiences are delivered through a thematic curriculum. Opportunities for communication (including reading) are planned for across the day; in all activities and experiences; across all environments; and with all adults and peers. There are multiple opportunities for fine motor development; tactile experiences and early mark making.

For learners in The Woodlands Hub who require a more semi-formal approach and are at the learning stage to access some discrete Read Write Inc. teaching, these lessons or access to these lessons are planned for and included in learner's individual timetables.

Speaking, Listening and Communicating

Outside of the pre-formal curriculum there is limited discrete teaching of communication, speaking and listening, rather it is embedded within all subjects. Some colleagues (with further training and cascading planned) have been trained in Oracy. Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 have two discrete Oracy lessons weekly where they learn both to talk and through talk. This includes talking, and listening, to different audiences, for different purposes and within different contexts. This could be

exploratory talk or presentational talk. Oracy is also embedded across the curriculum, with different subjects lending themselves to different types of talk, for example informing or explaining may be more likely to be used in Math and recitation more likely to be used in English.

In Key Stage 5 learners have opportunities to practice, apply and develop their Speaking, Listening and Communicating skills through accredited modules (Functional Skills). In particular, learners are supported to ensure they have the necessary Speaking and Listening and Communicating skills to be 'next-step ready', for some of our learners this means supported employment or employment. These learners have careers lessons where they are supported with interview preparation.

All teachers and LLSAs, at a minimum, receive the necessary training and support to confidently deliver the correct programmes (Read, Write Inc.; Talk for Writing; Oracy). Support is also given by the English subject leader to ensure quality first teaching. Parents also receive the necessary level of training to enable them to support their young person with their Home Learning.

Reading

Reading is taught predominately through the Read, Write, Inc. programme. Classes have Read, Write, Inc. lessons four times a week. These groupings are based on ability and learners are regularly assessed, and moved if necessary, to ensure they are placed in the most appropriate group. Where Read, Write, Inc. is not appropriate for a small minority of learners, alternative strategies are used to match individual needs, such as 'See and Learn'. In Key Stage 2 & Key Stage 3, learners have opportunities to practice, apply and develop their reading skills through their Cornerstones topic curriculum. In Key Stage 4 & 5, learners have opportunities to practice, apply and develop their reading skills through accredited modules (WJEC and/ or Functional Skills), each module has varying coverage of reading knowledge and skills. Learners in the secondary department, where relevant, use Lexia.

We encourage all of our learners across the school to read, or listen to stories and other literature, for pleasure. We do this by ensuring classrooms have high quality literature, which are both appropriate for their developmental level and targeted towards their level of interest and engagement. There is a Core Reading Spine which runs across the whole school. This includes 10-15 core texts for each class as well as texts linked to termly topics, where appropriate. We have a whole school celebration for World Book Day, and other Literacy events, ensuring we provide stimulating and meaningful experiences, for example visiting authors and storytellers.

Writing

Writing is taught predominantly through weekly English or Writing lessons and the Read, Write, Inc. programme. The English long term plans have been carefully designed to ensure coverage of all text types, both fiction and non-fiction: Narrative, Recount, Instruction, Information, Explanation, Persuasion and Discussion. These text types have been sequenced based on difficulty level; the model text used in class will also determine the expected outcomes.

Learners in Key Stage 2 & Key Stage 3 are engaged in the Talk for Writing framework. Learners also have opportunities to practice, apply and develop their writing skills through their Cornerstones topic curriculum. In Key Stage 4 & 5, learners have opportunities to practice, apply and develop their writing skills through accredited modules (WJEC and/ or Functional Skills), each module has varying coverage of writing knowledge and skills.

Like all of the English strands, opportunities for writing are embedded across the curriculum. Colourful Semantics, Shape Coding and Read, Write, Inc. strategies (for example spelling fingers, air punctuation) are strategies and resources which are used consistently across the board, as and when appropriate.

Impact (Benefits to learners)

Our learners with complex needs will demonstrate less negative behavior, and greater mental wellbeing, due to their ability to access and successfully use a communication system which enables them to communicate their needs and wants and get these met.

Our learners following semi-formal or formal pathways will gain qualifications which will supplement their applications to college, a supported internship or employment.

Our learners, at each stage of their learning pathway, will have the skills and knowledge to be next-step ready, whether that is entering their next class or Key Stage or leaving Kennel Lane School after Year 9, Year 11 or Year 14. This will look different for each individual, and includes but is not limited to; college, supported living, independent living, supported internship, employment.

Measuring Progress

Formative	Summative
Questioning and verbal discussion	Final pieces of work (end of topic)
Marking of work / Book checks	 Progress towards relevant (English) EHCP Outcomes
Observations & Learning Walks	Progress towards English Assessment criteria, relevant to each individual
Progress towards short term targets	on Earwig
Self/ Peer Assessment	End of year reports
	RWI Assessments
	Accredited courses and exam results

Knowledge & Skills over time

The table below outlines general progression for each curriculum pathway between each Key Stage. However, not all individuals progress within the below model in a linear way, as we recognise many progress through developmental stages, not age. When looking at progress on an individual basis, Earwig outlines where learners are currently working, and their next steps.

Topic / Area	EYFS & KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4	KS5
Speaking,	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal
Listening and	Immediate, concrete				
Communicating	objects & actions				
	 Real objects 	Real objects	Real objects	 Real objects 	Real objects
	 Objects of reference 	Objects of reference	Objects of reference	Objects of reference	Objects of reference
	 Transition songs 				
	 Gestures, facial 	Gestures, facial			
	expression, eye				
	contact	contact	contact	contact	contact
	 Visual First, Next, 				
	Then	Then	Then	Then	Then
	• PECS	• PECS	PECS	• PECS	• PECS
	 Communication 				
	boards	boards	boards	boards	boards
	 Let's Connect 	Let's Connect	Let's Connect	 Let's Connect 	Let's Connect
	 Bucket group 	Bucket group	Bucket group	Bucket group	Bucket group
	 Intensive Interaction 				
	 Understanding and 				
	following instructions				
	(1 key word)	(1 key word)	(1-2 key words)	(1-2 key words)	(1-2 key words)

Semi-formal	Semi-formal & Formal	Semi-formal & Formal	Semi-formal & Formal	Semi-formal
Immediate, concrete	Communication	Communication	Communication	Communication
objects & actions	Expressive	Expressive	Expressive	Expressive
Transition songs	 Use a single word, 	Receptive	Receptive	Receptive
Gestures, facial	two words or a short			Receptive
expression, eye	phrase, verbal or	Oracy	WJEC Entry 2 or 3	Functional Literacus
contact	non-verbal	Physical	Qualification -	Functional Literacy –
Visual First, Next,	Ask simple questions	Using the 'right' voice	Communicating	taught through English
Then	using words, signs or	and being able to	experiences	& Careers
• PECS	symbols	adapt tone	oxponences	Presentation speech
Communication	Symbols	Use voice to show	Functional Literacy –	1 1000manon opocon
boards	Receptive	expression	taught through English	Debates
	Understand simple	Linguistic	& Careers	Interview techniques
	sentences, in and out	Start to answer how	Presentation speech	Talking on phone
Bucket group	of context	and why questions	Debates	Appropriate
Understanding and faller via a factor at larger	Respond to simple	Using joining	Interview techniques	conversations in the
following instructions	directions	connectives for longer	Talking on the phone	workplace
(2 key words)	directions	sentences	Appropriate	'
	Oracy	Use of sentence	conversations in the	Oracy
	Physical	stems to build and	workplace	Physical
	Speaking clearly at	challenge (agree,	Workplace	Consider position and
	an appropriate	disagree, give	Oracy	posture when
	volume	reason)	Physical	•
	 Looking at who you 	Cognitive	To use gestures to	presenting
	are talking to	 Build and challenge 	support meaning	Gestures and facial
	Linguistic	others points of view	Vary tone of voice	expressions become
	Speaking in	 Offer reasons for 	Linguistic	increasingly natural
	sentences	opinions	Use specialist,	o To pause for effect
	 Answer what, where 	 Recognise when they 	subject-specific	Linguistic
	and when questions	haven't understood	language and	 Use more complex
	Cognitive	something and ask a	vocabulary	sentence structures
	 Answers match what 	question to clarify	Use varied sentence	o To use a range of
	has been asked	Social and Emotional	openers	sentence stems
	 Simply retell stories 	o Take turns in group	Cognitive	Cognitive
	and experiences	discussion	· ·	o To be able to
	Social and Emotional	 Confidently deliver a 	To make connections	summaries a
	Wait for a turn	short prepared	between what has	discussion
	Listening and	material, e.g. show	been said	
	responding	and tell	Social and Emotional	
	appropriately		 Start to develop an 	own and others talk
	Using language to	Social Skills group –	awareness of an	o To reach shared
	express needs and	selected learners	audience	agreement
	114111111111111111111111111111111111111			 Social and Emotional

		0	Ensure that everyone makes a valid contribution To speak with confidence in front of an audience	0	To respond to an audience reaction (judge when to stop speaking) To be able to engage in small talk To not take different opinions personally
				Cor som and Fur •	mal ntinuation of above for ne formal learners, l: nctional Skills Entry Level 1 Entry Level 2 Entry Level 3 Level 1 Level 2 GCSE English This will be looked at on an individual basis, if and when needed
				text Fur Wo sup	plication of learnt t types within nctional Skills exam rk experience/ pported internships – plication of Literacy

Topic / Area	EYFS & KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4	KS5
Reading	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal
3	Pre-Phonics strands: Visual discrimination Visual memory Auditory discrimination and memory Key book skills	Pre-Phonics strands: Visual discrimination Visual memory Auditory discrimination and memory Key book skills	Pre-Phonics strands: Visual discrimination Visual memory Auditory discrimination and memory Key book skills	Pre-Phonics strands: Visual discrimination Visual memory Auditory discrimination and memory Key book skills	Pre-Phonics strands: Visual discrimination Visual memory Auditory discrimination and memory Key book skills
	(See Pre-Phonics overview and	(See Pre-Phonics overview and	(See Pre-Phonics overview and	(See Pre-Phonics overview and	(See Pre-Phonics overview and

assessment framework for more information)

Additional reading opportunities, including reading for pleasure

- Stories
- Rhymes
- Singing boxes/bags –
 including PECS folder of
 songs, along with their
 associated actions and
 vocabulary, in addition to a
 box of concrete
 objects/props for each
 song.
- Action songs
- Repetitive body & voice sessions
- Sensory Stories

(See Core Reading Spine for Core texts and topic texts)

assessment framework for more information)

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Community signs
Recognising and
responding to signs in the
community, including
signs and fonts which
mean the same but look
different

assessment framework for more information)

Additional reading opportunities, including reading for pleasure

- Stories
- Rhymes
- Action songs
- Repetitive body & voice sessions
- Sensory Stories

(See Core Reading Spine for Core texts and topic texts)

Community signs

Recognising and responding to signs in the community, including signs and fonts which mean the same but look different

Semi-formal Read, Write, Inc.

- Continuation of prephonics strands (as above), where necessary
- Read Write Inc. Set 1 sounds, assisted blending, independent blending
- Read Write Inc. Set 2 sounds (where appropriate)
- Individual intervention, where identified

Semi-formal & Formal Read, Write, Inc.

- Continuation of prephonics strands (as above), where necessary
- Read Write Inc. Set 1 sounds, assisted blending, independent blending
- Read Write Inc. Set 2 sounds
- Read Write Inc. Set 3 sounds

Semi-formal

- Read Write Inc. Set 1 sounds, assisted blending, independent blending
- Read Write Inc. Set 2 sounds (where appropriate)
- Read Write Inc. Set 3 sounds
- Individual intervention, where identified, possibly including 'See and Learn' for learners who are not making progress

Semi-formal

- Read Write Inc. Set 1 sounds, assisted blending, independent blending
- Read Write Inc. Set 2 sounds (where appropriate)
- Read Write Inc. Set 3 sounds
- Individual intervention, where identified, possibly including 'See and Learn' for learners who are not making progress

Semi-formal

- Targeted Read Write Inc. Set 1 -3 learners (where progress is still being recorded)
- Comprehension skills using texts, Lexia and functional literacy
- Fresh Start Modules– age appropriatetexts

Reading and Reading for pleasure

Class stories –
 reading over a period
 of time

op rea • • • (So Sp	dditional reading opportunities, including ading for pleasure Stories Rhymes Action songs Repetitive body & voice sessions Sensory Stories ee Core Reading oine for Core texts and pic texts)	 Individual intervention, where identified Additional reading opportunities, including reading for pleasure Stories Sensory stories High quality adapted children's literature Interactive whiteboard stories Oxford Owl Barefoot books (See Core Reading Spine for Core texts and topic texts) 	Reading and Reading for pleasure Class stories — reading over a period of time Exploring poetry Access to library (See Core Reading Spine for Core texts and topic texts)
			Formal Continuation of above for

Exploring poetry Reading and Reading Access to library for pleasure Class stories – (See Core Reading **Spine for Core texts and** period reading over a period topic texts) of time Exploring poetry **Functional Literacy** Access to library Understanding signs in the community (See Core Reading Understanding and xts and Spine for Core texts and following instructions topic texts) Work related reading **WJEC Entry 2** Qualifications -**Functional Skills** Qualification – Entry Exploring narratives Level 1 or Entry Level 2 Exploring Shakespeare Lexia – individual (Macbeth) progression Lexia – individual progression **Formal Formal** Continuation of above for Continuation of above for some formal learners. some formal learners. and: and: Fresh Start Modules Fresh Start Modules Echo reading age-appropriate Using a my turn, your turn texts approach, modelling Comprehension RWI Comprehension RWI appropriate fluency. scheme Literacy and Reading with ERIC Language – to ERIC activities (explain, develop an enjoyment develop an enjoyment retrieve, interpret, choice) of literature to complete high level comprehension. Shared reading Using texts, Poetry, Class stories music, speeches etc.

reading over a period

Exploring poetry

of time

Lexia – individual

progression

some formal learners.

age-appropriate

and:

texts

scheme

Literacy and

of literature

Shared reading

of time

Language – to

Class stories -

Exploring poetry

reading over a period

	Access to library	Access to library	
	Reading for pleasure	Reading for Pleasure	Functional SkillsEntry Level 1Entry Level 2
	(See Core Reading Spine for Core texts and topic texts)	(See Core Reading Spine for Core texts and topic texts)	Entry Level 3Level 1Level 2
	Lexia – individual progression	Lexia – individual progression	GCSE English This will be looked at on an individual basis if and when needed
		WJEC Entry 3 Qualifications - • Exploring narratives	Application of learnt text types within Functional Skills exam
		 Exploring Shakespeare (Macbeth) 	Work experience/ supported internships – application of Literacy

Topic / Area	EYFS & KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4	KS5
Writing	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal	Pre-formal
	Development of gross	Development of gross	Development of gross	Development of gross	Development of gross
	and fine motor skills -	and fine motor skills –	and fine motor skills	and fine motor skills	and fine motor skills
	Dough Disco	Dough Disco			
	Squiggle while you Wiggle	Squiggle while you Wiggle	Experiential writing	Experiential writing	Experiential writing
	Tactile experiences	Tactile experiences	Mark Making	Mark Making	Mark Making
	Experiential writing	Experiential writing	Early letter writing	Early letter writing	Early letter writing
	Mark Making	Mark Making			
	Early letter writing	Early letter writing			
		Semi-formal & Formal	Semi-formal	Semi-formal	Semi-formal
		Writing elements of RWI	Writing elements of RWI	Writing elements of RWI	Writing elements of RWI
		programme:	programme:	programme:	programme:
			 Letter formation – 	 Letter formation – 	Letter formation –
		Letter formation –	using RWI ditties	using RWI ditties	using RWI ditties
		using RWI ditties	 Hold a sentence 	 Hold a sentence 	Hold a sentence
		Hold a sentence	 Edit a sentence 	 Edit a sentence 	Edit a sentence
		Edit a sentence	 Build a sentence 	 Build a sentence 	Build a sentence
		Build a sentence			

	Nelson handwriting	Nelson handwriting	Nelson handwriting
Nelson handwriting Talk for Writing – Short burst writing Vocabulary generation Shared writing Making a simple substitution Composition – simple sentences Talk for Writing framework Text structure Understanding beginning middle and end	Talk for Writing – Short burst writing Vocabulary generation Shared writing Making a simple substitution Composition – simple sentences Talk for Writing framework Text structure Understanding beginning middle and end Sentence	Talk for Writing – Short burst writing Vocabulary generation Shared writing Making a simple substitution Composition – simple sentences Talk for Writing framework Text structure Understanding beginning middle and end	Talk for Writing – Short burst writing Vocabulary generation Shared writing Making a simple substitution Composition – simple sentences Talk for Writing framework Text structure Understanding beginning middle and end Sentence
 Sentence construction Sequencing words into a sentence verbal Writing simple sentences Reading back a sentence Using simple connectives Being able to read a sentence back Word structure/ language Use of some determiners (the, a) Use of some prepositions Punctuation Finger spaces Full stops Capital letters 	construction Sequencing words into a sentence verbal Writing simple sentences Reading back a sentence Using simple connectives Being able to read a sentence back Word structure/ language Use of some determiners (the, a) Use of some prepositions Punctuation Finger spaces Full stops Capital letters	 Sentence construction Sequencing words into a sentence verbal Writing simple sentences Reading back a sentence Using simple connectives Being able to read a sentence back Word structure/ language Use of some determiners (the, a) Use of some prepositions Punctuation Finger spaces Full stops Capital letters 	construction Sequencing words into a sentence verbal Writing simple sentences Reading back a sentence Using simple connectives Being able to read a sentence back Word structure/ language Use of some determiners (the, a) Use of some prepositions Punctuation Finger spaces Full stops Capital letters

Talk for Writin types covered Narrative - and predict stories Instruction Description The difficulty let model text and criteria/ toolkit, determines the output for groulearners.	d: - repetitive etable n/ Poetry evel of the disuccess e expected		Entry Level certificate in English – for learners who find working independently challenging and are not able to manage exam conditions.
	Formal Writing elements of RWI programme: • Hold a sentence • Edit a sentence • Build a sentence Writing elements of Literacy and Language programme Nelson handwriting Talk for Writing framework • Text structure • Understanding five parts of a story • Sentence construction • Planning for writing — characters, setting, events, etc. • Writing different types of sentences —	Formal Writing elements of RWI programme: Hold a sentence Edit a sentence Build a sentence Writing elements of Literacy and Language programme Nelson handwriting WJEC Entry 2 or 3 Qualifications - Creating narratives Exploring narratives Communicating experiences Exploring Shakespeare Text types covered: Narrative Information Recount Explanation	Formal Functional Skills Entry Level 1 Entry Level 2 Entry Level 3 Level 1 Level 2 GCSE English This will be looked at on an individual basis if and when needed Application of learnt text types within Functional Skills exam Functional Literacy Careers Read job adverts Writing letters of application Work experience/ supported internships – application of Literacy

statements, questions, exclamations Use of simple connectives Use of some openers Use of adjectives to embellish simple sentences Word structure/ language Use of alliterations and similes Use of regular plural noun suffixes Pinctuation Exclamation marks Question marks Speech bubbles
Talk for Writing text types covered: Narrative Information Recount Description/ Poetry Explanation Instruction The difficulty level of the model text and success criteria/ toolkit, determines the expected output for groups of learners.

Linked documents

Curriculum Maps:

- Read, Write, Inc.
- Total Communication
- The Woodlands Hub documentation (pre-formal curriculum)
- Nurture Social communication
- Social Skills Social communication

Subject documents:

- English Long Term Plans
- English Medium Term Plans
- English Action Plan
- Literacy/ English policy
- Literacy: Teaching and Learning approaches
- Core Reading Spine
- Pre Phonics overview and assessment criteria
- Writing: text types covered

Earwig – Assessment system:

- Earwig KLS Pre-Phonics
- Earwig KLS Academic RWI
- Earwig KLS Academic Semi-Formal Writing
- Earwig KLS Academic English Writing
- Earwig KLS Academic Oracy
- Earwig KLS Academic Functional Skills English