

English at Lisvane

Literacy – a skill for life

The ability to use language proficiently is essential in a world now dependent on effective mass communication. At Lisvane, literacy unites the important skills of reading and writing, as well as involving speaking and listening. Good oral work enhances pupils' understanding of language in both spoken and written forms and of the way language can be used to communicate. Oral work is also an important part of the process through which pupils read and compose texts.

English in the *Infant Department* (Key Stage 1) is about helping pupils to learn to speak confidently and listen to what others have to say, and to begin to read and write independently and with enthusiasm. Pupils are encouraged to use language to explore their own experiences and imaginary worlds.

Speaking and listening

Pupils learn to speak clearly, thinking about the needs of their listeners. They work in small groups and as a class, joining in discussions and making relevant points. They also learn how to listen carefully to what other people are saying, so that they can remember the main points. They learn to use language in imaginative ways and express their ideas and feelings when working in role and in drama activities.

Reading

Pupils' interest and pleasure in reading is developed as they learn to read confidently and independently. They focus on words and sentences and how they fit into whole texts. They work out the meaning of straightforward texts and say why they like them, or do not like them.

Writing

Pupils start to enjoy writing and see the value of it. They learn to communicate meaning in narrative and non-fiction texts and they begin to spell and punctuate correctly.

English for the *Juniors* (Key Stage 2) focuses on helping pupils to learn to change the way they speak and write in order to suit different situations, purposes and audiences; and on reading a wide range of texts to encourage their response to different layers of meaning in them. Pupils enjoy exploring the use of language in literary and non-literary texts, as well as learning how language actually works.

Speaking and listening

Pupils learn how to speak in a range of contexts, adapting what they say and how they say it to the purpose and the audience. Taking varied roles in groups gives them opportunities to contribute to situations with different demands. They also learn to respond appropriately to others, thinking about what has been said and the language used.

Reading

Pupils begin to read enthusiastically a range of materials and use their knowledge of words, sentences and texts to understand and respond to the meaning. They increase their ability to read challenging and lengthy texts independently. They reflect on the meaning of texts, analysing and discussing them with others.

Writing

Pupils now develop an understanding that writing is both essential to thinking and learning, and that it can be enjoyable in its own right. They learn the main rules and conventions of written English and start to explore how the English language can be used to express meaning in different ways. They use the planning, drafting and editing process to improve their work and to sustain their fiction and non-fiction writing.