

Subject name: ENGLISH

General Statement of Intent

The English Curriculum at Pebble Brook encompasses reading, writing, and speaking and listening throughout the whole school. Our general intent is to develop all of these key areas to allow the students to become functionally literate and able to communicate through language, spoken or written, in the wider world. English literacy is essential for our students to live independent lives. It is a vital skill which provides access to other subjects and the search for information. We also believe that effective communication is an essential part of being a successful citizen and given that many of our students have difficulties in this area, we place great emphasis on the development of these skills. The majority of our students have difficulties in one or all of these areas in English and so what we offer helps to 'plug the gaps' and aim to engender some enjoyment in books or writing whilst also giving our students the ability to engage with characters who have different lives. We try to expose our pupils to books they would not choose themselves e.g Shakespeare whilst at the same time thinking about themes that will appeal such as Spy or detective stories: 'Storm breaker' , 'The London Eye Mystery'. As a lot of students use visuals as support, we also try to give opportunities to experience these texts visually through films to enhance their experiences.

High Needs

In this area students are given more intensive support. The key skills of speaking and listening, reading and writing is carried out at an appropriate pace.

VI students have resources enlarged to the appropriate-sized font or use their laptops as do our pupils with dyslexic or fine motor difficulties.

KS3 Developing skills from their starting points at PB working towards a pathway for being functionally literate which may include qualifications.
KS4/ KS5 Extending literacy skills leading to their career pathway so that they can move forward in life with the confidence to cope independently. We also endeavour to cultivate their interest in current affairs and motivate them to read for pleasure.

Knowledge and Skills

Speaking & Listening

Listen and show understanding of a topic

Discuss and share ideas about a topic

Formulate questions

Writing

Formulate sentences leading to progression of being able to write an extended piece of writing for a purpose and audience

Reading

Being able to recognise sight vocabulary
Be able to segment and blend phonic sounds
To promote and encourage reading for pleasure

Assessment strategies including external examinations
Students benefit from practising and rehearsing for exams to help lower the anxiety levels.

Baseline assessments are carried out when the pupil enters the school.

Regular reading and spelling assessments.

Phonic Knowledge is assessed.

Edexcel Functional Skills Entry Level 1- Level 2

BKSB

Formative and summative assessment through questioning, quizzes, written tasks

EARWIG recording of progress and also supports target setting

Any additional notes

Reading and spelling interventions in all KS are targeted at those not making expected progress.

All KS groups are given scaffolding support: writing frames, sentence starters, vocabulary lists, learning mats, targeted LOs, modelling, Now, Next guidance.

Homework tasks are selected to consolidate class learning and provide revision opportunities.