

Heather Garth Primary Academy

Year 2 Programme of Study



Heather Garth
Primary Academy
Stars Aiming High

English

At Heather Garth, we teach English in Year 2 through a carefully considered approach. The Little Wandle Year 2 Spelling Programme is used in the Autumn term. This begins with a Phase 5 review before moving on, supporting children to build the alphabetic code, providing a seamless link from the core Little Wandle Letters and Sounds programme, to learning spelling in Year 2 and above.

Following this, children move to Spelling Shed to ensure delivery of the English National Curriculum statutory and non-statutory spelling targets, rules, and high-frequency words. Children can also access this at home so they can practise throughout the week.

To continue strengthening early writing skills, from September 2025, Year 2 will extend their Curious Quest journey into the autumn term. The children will continue to 'inventure' their way along the quest, writing codes to solve problems. As soon as pupils are confidently secure in their basic writing skills, they are ready to join the whole-school English approach.

Through the use of carefully developed themed units, which draw upon prior learning from the wider curriculum, children secure understanding of key conceptual vocabulary and context. Over the year, these units cover a wide range of age-appropriate, challenging narratives/novels, non-fiction and poetry. These units are used in whole class reading lessons to develop pupils' vocabulary, oracy, fluency, comprehension and to apply the reading skills they have been taught. Staff integrate carefully developed assessment activities into each unit to check that pupils have truly learned the important knowledge they have been taught and can apply this in meaningful contexts. Explicit teaching of speaking and listening also forms part of our English curriculum, while also ensuring that it is integrated into wider learning.

We also read age-appropriate texts to the children on a daily basis to encourage reading for pleasure, as well as developing their oral comprehension skills through carefully planned questioning and discussion.

Oracy is embedded as a core component throughout the Year 2 English curriculum.

Handwriting is taught three times per week using the Letter-join handwriting programme.

Please refer to the Year 2 half-termly English Overviews on the class page for a more detailed overview of the texts studied and the writing opportunities that take place.

Mathematics

In Year two, the maths units we cover are:

Number: Place Value

Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words.

Recognise the place value of each digit in a two digit number (tens, ones)

Compose and decompose two-digit numbers using standard and nonstandard partitioning.

Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations including the number line.

Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use <, > and = signs.

Use place value and number facts to solve problems.

Count in steps of 2, 3 and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward and backward.

Number- addition subtraction, multiplication + division

Recall and use addition and subtraction facts to 20 fluently, and derive and use related facts up to 100.

Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a two-digit number and ones; a two-digit number and tens; two two-digit numbers; adding three one-digit numbers.

Recognise the subtraction structure of 'difference' and answer questions of the form, "How many more...?".

Show that the addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.

Solve problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations, including those involving numbers, quantities and measures; applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.

Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and solve missing number problems.

Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, including recognising odd and even numbers.

Calculate mathematical statements for multiplication and division within the multiplication tables and write them using the multiplication (x), division (\div) and equals (=) sign.

Solve problems involving multiplication and division, using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental

methods and multiplication and division facts, including problems in contexts.

Show that the multiplication of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and division of one number by another cannot.

Fractions

Recognise, find, name and write fractions $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity.

Write simple fractions e.g. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 6=3

Recognise the equivalence of $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$

Geometry- Position and Direction

Use mathematical vocabulary to describe position, direction and movement including movement in a straight line and distinguishing between rotation as a turn and in terms of right angles for quarter, half and three-quarter turns (clockwise and anti-clockwise).

Order and arrange combinations of mathematical objects in patterns and sequences

Geometry: Properties of Shapes

Identify and describe the properties of 2-D shapes, including the number of sides and line symmetry in a vertical line.

Identify and describe the properties of 3-D shapes, including the number of edges, vertices and faces.

Identify 2-D shapes on the surface of 3-D shapes, [for example, a circle on a cylinder and a triangle on a pyramid.]

Compare and sort common 2-D and 3-D shapes and everyday objects.

Measurement: Money

Recognise and use symbols for pounds (£) and pence (p); combine amounts to make a particular value.

Find different combinations of coins that equal the same amounts of money.

Solve simple problems in a practical context involving addition and subtraction of money of the same unit, including giving change.

Measurement: Mass, Capacity and Temperature

Choose and use appropriate standard units to estimate and measure mass (kg/g); temperature (°C); capacity (litres/ml) to the nearest appropriate unit, using scales, thermometers and measuring vessels
Compare and order mass, volume/capacity temperature and record the results using $>$, $<$ and $=$

Measurement-Length and height

Choose and use appropriate standard units to estimate and measure length/height in any direction (m/cm); to the nearest appropriate unit, using rulers and measuring vessels
Compare and order lengths and record the results using $>$, $<$ and $=$

Measurement-Time

Tell and write the time to five minutes, including quarter past/to the hour and draw the hands on a clock face to show these times.
Know the number of minutes in an hour and the number of hours in a day.
Compare and sequence intervals of time.

Statistics

Interpret and construct simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and simple tables.
Ask and answer simple questions by counting the number of objects in each category and sorting the categories by quantity.
Ask and answer questions about totaling and comparing categorical data.

Problem solving and investigations

Throughout all aspects of mathematics

Art and Design

In art and design, Year 2 will focus on: Drawing and painting, Printing and Sculpture.

In the drawing unit, the children will learn about Brian Wildsmith (from Penistone) who was a British painter and children's book illustrator. They will produce an owl painting, inspired by the work of Brian Wildsmith using the techniques that they have been taught.

In the printing unit, the children will look at the work of Paul Klee the Swiss born, German artist and one of the most famous painters of the 20th Century. They will produce a printed piece of artwork inspired by the artwork, 'Castle and Sun' by Paul Klee.

In the sculpture unit, they will learn about Alexander Calder who was an American born sculptor most well-known for his static 'stabiles' and monumental public sculptors. The children will produce a free standing or suspended sculpture inspired by the work of Alexander Calder.

Citizenship

In citizenship, Year 2 will cover four units: VIP's, Teams, Diverse Britain and Well-being- Think positive, delivered by our Learning Mentor Mrs LeMasurier.

In the VIP unit, we will explore the Very Important Persons (VIPs) in children's lives and the ways in which they can develop positive relationships with them. It enables children to identify who are the special people in their life and what makes someone a special person. Children are also encouraged to explore why families and friendships are important and to understand that although these units are different for everyone, there are things they can do to resolve differences and build healthy and positive relationships within them. This unit also teaches children the importance of cooperation and how to show the special people in their lives that they care, and the positive impact of doing this.

The Teams theme is inspired by the idea that if a team works well together, it can have a positive impact on all of its members and what they can achieve. It aims to enable the children to develop successful collaborative working skills, such as good listening. In this unit, children learn about the importance of being kind to others, the effects of bullying and teasing what to do about it if they see it happening to others or if it happens to them. They will also think about effective learning skills and how to identify good and not-so-good choices.

In Diverse Britain, we explore the idea that individuals can have a positive impact on groups and communities to which they belong. It aims to enable the children to identify that they belong to various groups and communities and ways in which they contribute positively to these. In this unit, children learn about community, being good neighbours and looking after the environment. They will also learn about Britain, what it means to be British, about diversity and the importance of celebrating and being respectful of our differences.

Our final unit, Well-being- Think positive, is designed to help children recognise, talk about and accept their feelings, both positive and negative, as well as how to manage certain emotions. The lessons support themes of thinking positively and calmly, making good decisions and developing resilience. It also encourages the children to explore the positive feelings associated with being thankful, grateful and mindful.

Computing

In computing, Year 2 will cover six areas: two computing systems and networks units, two programming units, creating media and data handling.

In computing systems and networks, the children will explore what a computer is by identifying how inputs and outputs work and how computers are used in the wider world to then design their own computerised invention.

We will also be developing touch typing skills, learning keyboard shortcuts and using simple editing tools.

In programming, we will be developing an understanding of what algorithms are, how to program them and how they can be developed to be more efficient and an introduction to loops.

The children will be exploring what 'blocks' do' by carrying out an informative cycle of predict > test > Review as well as programming a familiar story and making a musical instrument.

In creating media, the children will be learning how to create simple animations from storyboarding creative ideas.

In data handling unit, we will learn how data is collected, used and displayed and the scientific

learning of the conditions needed for plants and humans to survive in space.

Design and Technology

In design and technology, Year 2 will focus on: Mechanisms, food technology and textiles

In Mechanisms, the children will continue to learn about simple mechanisms. They will look at everyday objects to explore levers, linkages and pivots. They will experiment with making linkages that could be used to create a moving monster. They will design and construct a moving monster following design criteria. Once they have completed their moving monster, they will evaluate how successful their design has been.

In food technology, the children will continue to learn about different cooking methods and nutrition. They will explore what makes a healthy diet by exploring the Eatwell Plate. They will investigate a range of food combinations to find the best flavour for a healthy wrap. They will then prepare the ingredients safely and hygienically before evaluating their wrap to see if it could be improved and what they would do differently next time.

In textiles the children will continue to develop their sewing skills. They will explore joining techniques and how to use each of these safely and sensibly. They will design a puppet and then use a simple template to cut out their felt. They will then join their pieces of fabric using their preferred technique of pinning, stapling or gluing. The children will then decorate their puppet using a variety of materials. Once they have completed their puppet, they will evaluate their puppet.

Geography

In geography, Year 2 will cover two units: Comparing the UK and Kenya and 'Oh, I do like to be beside the seaside'.

In our Autumn unit, Comparing the UK and Kenya, you will begin by exploring your local area of Bolton upon Dearne. You will undertake fieldwork in the area, recognising its human and physical features. You will use aerial photographs, as well as your fieldwork experience, to draw maps of the local area using a key.

Following this, you will broaden your place knowledge of the world by exploring the seven continents and five oceans. You will use maps and globes to locate the continent of Africa and describe the location of Kenya in relation to other countries and the equator. You will then zoom in to a deeper study of Kenya: its climate and varied landscape. You will then compare Kenya with Bolton upon Dearne, recognising similarities and differences.

During the summer term, our unit is 'Oh I do like to be beside the seaside'. In this unit, you will learn about the oceans and seas that surround our island home – the United Kingdom. You will learn about seaside environments; finding out where they are located in the United Kingdom and seaside resorts nearest their own locality using maps and aerial photographs. You will learn about the geographical features of the seaside, both human and physical. You will take a trip to the beach and spend a day immersing ourselves in coastal town life (Cleethorpes). Returning to our classroom, you will use photos and maps to compare and contrast this town with our local area, looking at how resorts have changed over time. You will develop your geographical skills through fieldwork, inquiry and map-based activities throughout the lessons in this unit.

History

In history, Year 2 will cover three units: The Great Fire of London, Monarchs and 'Take to the Skies'

When studying the Great Fire of London, we will travel back in time to London in the seventeenth century. In 1665, the plague hit London, killing thousands of people. While the people were still recovering, a second disaster hit the city in 1666: the Great Fire of London. The fire started in Pudding Lane on 2 September 1666 in the bakery of Thomas Farriner, who was the King's baker. We will learn about the different reasons for the fire spreading so quickly and causing such devastation. We will also discover the lasting legacy of the fire and what makes an event that occurred more than 300 years ago so significant.

Throughout history, individuals have contributed to national and international achievements. When learning about Monarchs, children will learn about significant female Monarchs whose legacy is still remembered today: Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Victoria. Through understanding the context and lived experience of each individual, the children will develop an understanding of why and how they chose to promote change. By making comparisons between the Monarchs. Pupils will identify and explain similarities and differences in their methods and their lasting legacy.

For our final history unit, we will travel back to a time and look at the first seaside holidays. Following on from our learning about Queen Victoria and the invention of steam train travel we will look at how and why people travelled to seaside towns, what they wore and what they did for fun while they were there!

Music

In Music, Year 2 will cover three units: Time to Play – Exploring pulse and rhythm, Musical Moods and Pictures and Patterns with Pitch

From body percussion to disco music, our Autumn unit develops children's understanding of pulse and rhythm. The term begins with songs and activities to get children performing together rhythmically. The children will perform actions and movements to a steady pulse and play simple musical passing games. They will learn songs such as March To The Beat to explore the difference between pulse and rhythm, and investigate different ways to play rhythms, varying instrumental timbre and dynamics.

In Musical Moods, the children will learn how songs and music can communicate different moods and emotions. They will investigate different ways to express the mood of a song by adding facial expressions and changing the timbre and dynamics of their voice. They will develop their understanding of musical mood through simple songs, where they will be introduced to major and minor tonality.

Throughout the term, the children will listen and talk about a wide variety of music including Can-Can from Orpheus in the Underworld by Offenbach and Fanfarra Cabua-Le-Le by Sergio Mendes/Carlinhos Brown. They will learn to represent the sounds they hear using graphic symbols and musical doodles!

Working as a class and in small groups, they will compose and improvise music on the theme of weather. They will learn to give musical instructions, taking the role of a conductor in a small group performance. They will create descriptive sounds inspired by a song and create a simple soundscape.

In our final unit, the children will be exploring pitch and melody. From the octobass to the piccolo, they will find out about a variety of instruments and learn to describe their pitch and timbre.

They will play simple listening games and recall a pitch sequence, recognizing where the pitch gets higher, lower or stays the same. Through a range of songs, they will develop their pitch-matching skills, performing them with actions and movement.

They will learn to use their voices creatively, creating sounds to match graphic notations such as vocal story maps and pipe-cleaner notation. They will play simple melodies using tuned percussion and be introduced to the pentatonic scale with songs such as Just Five Notes.

They will finish the term by preparing songs and music for a class performance.

As singing is the golden thread that underpins all music, children will also take part in a variety of singing activities and games using the Barnsley Singing strategy. These will help children to find their singing voice, sing tunefully, sing in a group and most of all develop a love of singing!

Physical Education

In physical education, we cover a number of areas throughout the year including: fundamentals, gymnastics, fitness, sending and receiving skills, athletics and net and wall games.

We also work on ball skills, dance, team building, target games, striking and fielding games and invasion games. All these lessons focus on developing the skills that are needed in order to take part in a variety of sports such as football, cricket, dodgeball, basketball, hockey and rounders.

Children have two PE sessions per week, delivered by the class team.

Religious Education

In religious education, Year 2 learn about both the Christian and Jewish faiths.

For each religion we learn about sacred texts, places of worship, beliefs and traditions, festivals and families, significant people of faith as well as exploring how the children and others feel about life and universe around them. Children then compare and contrast, recognising similarities and differences of each faith.

Science

In science, Year 2 will cover four units: animals including humans, living things and their habitats, uses of everyday materials and plants.

In animals including humans, pupils study life cycles and learn that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. New learning includes the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival and the importance of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

In living things and their habitats, pupils will learn about the food chains of animals in varying habitats and will look at microhabitats and the animals that live there. They will also learn how to determine if something is alive, was once alive or never lived.

Our next unit is uses of everyday materials. This unit builds on pupils' knowledge of materials of properties as pupils identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard for different uses.

New learning includes comparing how things move on different surfaces. This unit will help pupils understand how squashing, bending, twisting and stretching can change the shapes of some solid objects.

In our plants unit pupils will recap common plants and trees studied in year 1 before moving onto how plants grow (including germination and pollination), what they need to grow healthily and differences between bulbs and seeds. This unit includes an investigation about growing healthy plants.

Enrichment Activities

Throughout the year, Year 2 take part in a number of enrichment activities. These include educational visits, visitors into school and after school clubs.

Educational visits that Year 2 take part in include:

A local walk to observe and gather information for our autumn geography unit
National Emergency Services Museum for our Great Fire of London History unit
Cleethorpes and the RNLI for our geography and history seaside units

We also have a visit in school from The Yorkshire Owl Experience as part of our literacy work and Science work on animals and their habitats.

Year 2 have access to a range of after school activities. These can be found on the school website.