

“Children who start with no English are word reading and applying phonic knowledge by the end of the year, therefore achieving the phonics screening check (PSC).”

Children new to English learn quickly with Read Write Inc. (RWI)

We prioritise teaching phonics and early reading in our school, as noted in our recent Ofsted report. RWI is structured and comprehensive; children love our phonics lessons and are highly engaged.

Children new to English often join our school in Year 1 with little or no knowledge of sounds. We teach the sounds with pace and energy and provide each new child with extra support. They learn sounds quickly and apply their knowledge to word reading. By the end of the year, they succeed in the PSC.



Fresh Start – perfect for older children

We teach Fresh Start in Years 5 and 6 to children who need specific support or are new to English. They engage with the programme as the modules match their interest level.

One-to-one tutoring, no child falls behind

We use the RWI assessments each half-term to track children’s progress and re-organise groupings as needed. Analysing data helps us identify children who need extra support. No child gets 'stuck' or falls behind.

School information

Julia Thorne, Reading Lead

Pupils on roll: 259

% children on FSM: 43%

% children with EAL: 54%

Ofsted date: March 2022

Ofsted rating: Good

PSC results: 2019 - 87%, 2022 - 90%

First trained by Ruth Miskin Training (RMT): 2019

We have several staff trained to deliver daily one-to-one tutoring. We meet with tutors regularly to discuss children’s progress and decide the next steps.

Ofsted described our staff as “excellently trained”

Ofsted noted that we teach our chosen phonics programme with fidelity and praised the training staff receive to teach children to read. All staff receive high-quality professional development from our RMT consultant and via the online subscription. The online training enables the reading leader to provide instant training opportunities for staff. This is particularly useful when reading teachers need to 'refresh' their practice or have a new group.

In-school development days with our consultant are invaluable; they provide staff with the support they need and help us all keep up to date. We work with priority children, coach staff and agree an action plan.

RWI strategies are effective in other lessons

We’ve seen improvements in children’s learning and behaviour across the curriculum. For example, children use 'Fred fingers' for spelling in other lessons.

The silent stop signal is particularly effective, including during break times.

Flexible online teaching, when it's needed

The online subscription is such a valuable resource, particularly during times when children have to learn from home. Children and families have access to high-quality phonics films.

Excellent resources, engaged children and parents

The resources are high quality and storybooks are carefully matched to the sounds children know. Children have plenty of extra storybooks to read too; this helps develop their confidence and love of reading. Parents enjoy supporting children's home reading with the Book Bag books.

We hold regular meetings in EYFS to introduce parents to RWI and in Year 1 in preparation for the PSC.



ST. PETER AT GOWTS **CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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empowering a community of hope.