

English Across the Curriculum Policy

INTRODUCTION

Runnymede prides itself on the level and quality of English used by its students. The school believes that the development and encouragement of the correct use of the English Language is the shared responsibility of all staff in all subject areas which are taught in English. Teachers should model excellent English usage in oral and written communication and they should look to develop subject-specific English vocabulary as part of their teaching.

The aim of maintaining and developing the quality English goes hand in hand with developing a high level of Spanish which is the mother tongue of most students at Runnymede.

SPOKEN ENGLISH

- English should be used as the means of communication in all lessons, apart from Modern Languages, Lengua and Sociales.
- Teachers should model good English in their communications with students.
- Teachers should encourage all students to speak English at all times in lessons.
- Teachers should correct students' English, though this should be done without disrupting the flow of communication.
- Teachers should correct intonation/pronunciation.
- Teachers should provide opportunities for structured talk
- Students should be given the opportunity to use spoken English in a variety of situations such as answering questions, presenting work to peers, discussing and debating

READING

- Students should be encouraged to read a variety of texts in all subject areas.
- Teachers should help students understanding culturally specific references in texts.
- Teachers should check the content quality of texts that are used and should try and warn students of potential difficulties before reading a text (eg complex words or phrases).
- Teachers should encourage and give advice on research and note-taking skills.
- Students should be given key words and encouraged to produce subject and topic glossaries.
- Students should be encouraged to read for pleasure.

WRITING

- Teachers should encourage the use of accurate, correct and well structured written English.
- Teachers should make clear the requirements of written tasks and should model good writing.
- Pupils in every subject should be given explicit instruction on how to improve.
- Teachers should correct spelling, grammar, expression and syntax where appropriate.
- Word processed work should be spell checked.
- Pupils should be taught subject-specific features and conventions of good writing.
- Style should be appropriate to the task and subject.
- Departments should provide lists of key words and common instruction words in their subject.

DIFFERENTIATION

- Using materials that are designed for EAL or ESL students may be appropriate for students.
- Additional materials should be provided to G&T students to extend English language skills.
- Targeted support should be provided to students who struggle to write fluently, as this may affect writing quality.
- Teachers should advise on planning, structuring and checking of work.
- Teachers should model good use of English to help pupils grasp what they are aiming for.
- Teachers can use a variety of approaches, including collaborative and paired writing, to motivate students to write.
- The occasional use of Spanish to help students understand the meaning of words or phrases is often appropriate.