



Fairlight Glen Independent Special School

Fairlight Glen Independent Special School – English Statement

English is one of the essential pillars of learning at Fairlight Glen. As a school specialising in supporting young people with complex social, emotional and mental health needs, we recognise that literacy is a gateway to communication, self-expression and independence. Many of our pupils arrive having experienced interrupted schooling or difficulty accessing mainstream education, and our English curriculum is designed to rebuild confidence, nurture resilience and equip pupils with language skills that empower them in everyday life.

Our Vision for English

Our vision is to ensure that every pupil—regardless of their starting point—gains the reading, writing, speaking and listening skills needed to express themselves, understand others and participate fully in the world around them. English is central to our mission of helping pupils develop self-knowledge, confidence and aspiration.

A Personalised and Ambitious English Curriculum

English at Fairlight Glen is highly personalised. Staff identify each pupil's learning gaps, strengths and interests, using this knowledge to design meaningful learning. Our curriculum includes functional reading, purposeful writing, structured speaking and listening, vocabulary development and confidence-building literacy opportunities.

Alignment with NCFE Functional Skills English

We prepare pupils for NCFE Functional Skills English qualifications (Entry Level to Level 2), focusing on real-life communication.

Supporting SEMH Through English

English is taught through a trauma-informed approach. Pupils explore emotions through reading and writing, develop expressive language and build communication strategies.

Cross-Curricular Literacy

English skills are embedded throughout the wider curriculum, including music, PSHE and enrichment.

Assessment and Progression

Assessment is continuous and personalised. Pupils progress towards Functional Skills qualifications and individual communication goals.

Inclusion and Equality

Our English curriculum is accessible to pupils with ASD, ADHD, SEMH needs and communication differences.

Conclusion

English at Fairlight Glen supports pupils to express themselves, build confidence and prepare for meaningful futures.