



LEARNING JOURNEY OVERVIEW

WHERE EVERY CHILD COUNTS

OUR CORE VALUES

We want all of our children to BE **P.I.C.K.H.U.R.S.T**

Proud

Inquisitive

Confident

Kind

Healthy

Understanding

Respectful

Successful

Trustworthy

Curriculum Rationale

At Pickhurst, the English curriculum is built around a carefully sequenced selection of high-quality texts, supported by The Literacy Tree. These texts form the foundation of pupils' reading and writing development, enabling them to engage deeply with language, narrative and ideas.

Core texts are chosen to:

- expose pupils to a wide range of genres, authors and forms
- develop vocabulary, comprehension and knowledge in meaningful contexts
- provide strong models for writing across a range of purposes
- support pupils in becoming confident, fluent and reflective readers and writers

Each unit is structured so that pupils build towards a final piece of writing, applying the knowledge and skills developed through close engagement with the text.

Curriculum Structure and Progression

Across Key Stage 2, pupils encounter a progressively more challenging range of texts in terms of:

- **Language** - increasingly sophisticated vocabulary and sentence structures
- **Form** - exposure to a wider range of genres, including narrative, non-fiction and poetry
- **Theme** - movement from familiar and concrete experiences to more complex and abstract ideas
- **Structure** - engagement with increasingly layered narratives and text organisation

In lower Key Stage 2, texts are often more accessible and may include visual elements or familiar narrative structures. In upper Key Stage 2, pupils encounter longer, more demanding texts that require sustained attention, inference and interpretation.

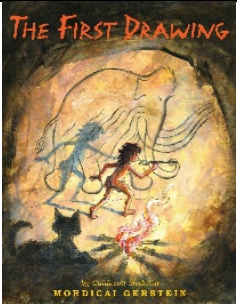
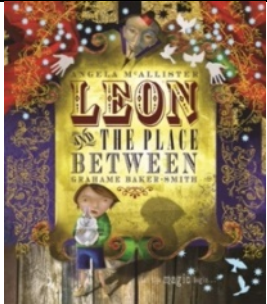
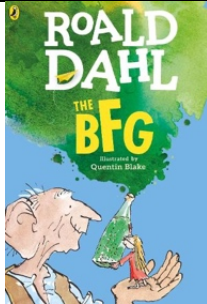
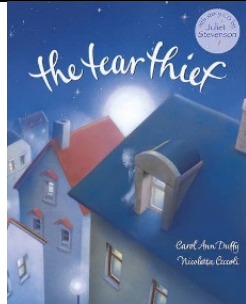
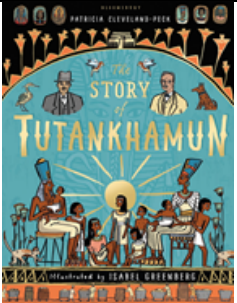
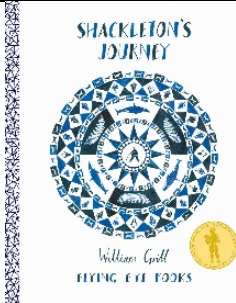
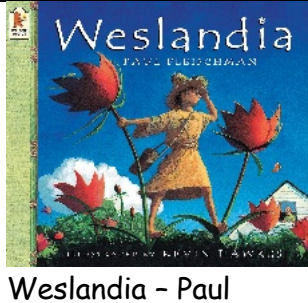
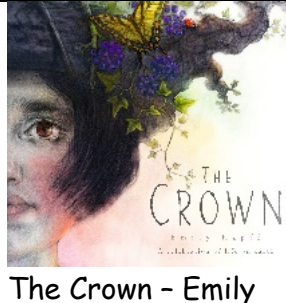
This progression ensures that pupils are well prepared for the expectations of Key Stage 3.

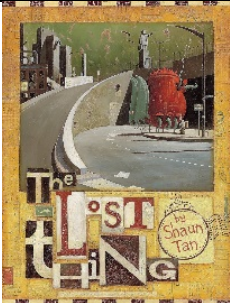
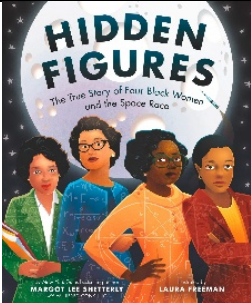
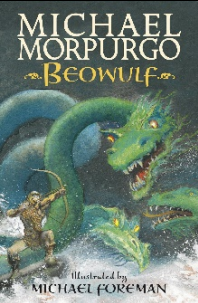
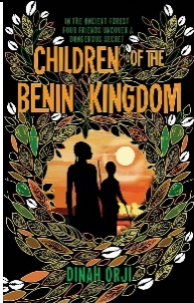
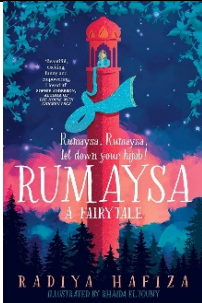
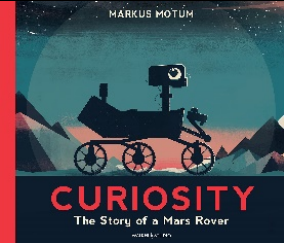
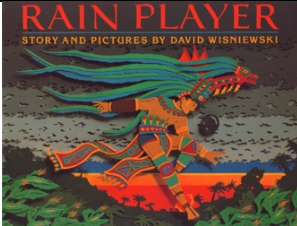
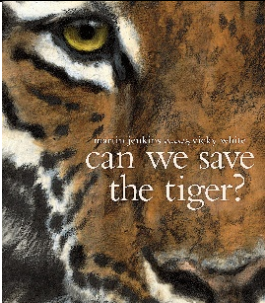
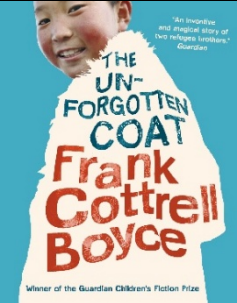
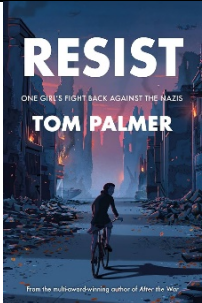
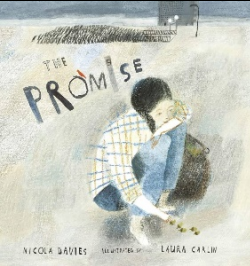
Text Selection Principles

Core texts are selected to:

- provide strong models for writing and language development
- support the teaching of reading skills through meaningful contexts
- make meaningful links to wider curriculum learning where appropriate
- offer a balance of classic and contemporary literature
- reflect a diverse range of voices, experiences and perspectives

Texts are chosen for their quality and suitability for whole-class teaching, ensuring that all pupils can access and engage with them.

	AUTUMN TERM		SPRING TERM		SUMMER TERM	
	1	2	1	2	1	2
YEAR 3						
	The First Drawing - Mordicai Gerstein (2011) Leon and the Place Between - Angela McAllister (2008) The Wilderness - Steve McCarthy (2020) The BFG - Roald Dahl (1982) Our Tower - Joseph Coelho (2022) The Tear Thief - Carol Ann Duffy (2007) Focus: • developing fluency and comprehension • introducing structured narratives and descriptive language • building confidence in writing for different purposes					
YEAR 4						
	The Story of Tutankhamun - Patricia Cleveland-Peck (2013) Frindleswyld - Natalia O'Hara (2022) The Iron Man - Ted Hughes (1968) Shackleton's Journey - William Grill (2014) Weslandia - Paul Fleischman (1999) The Crown - Emily Kapff (2021) Focus: • increasing independence in reading and writing • exploring a wider range of genres and text structures • developing inference and explanation skills					

YEAR 5						
	The Lost Thing - Shaun Tan (2000)	Hidden Figures - Margot Lee Shetterly (2016)	Beowulf - Michael Morpurgo (2010)	Children of the Benin Kingdom - Dina Orji (2020)	Rumaysa: A Fairytale - Radiya Hafiza (2022)	Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover - Markus Motum (2017)
Focus: - engaging with more complex themes and historical contexts - developing control over structure and form in writing - refining comprehension and analytical skills						
YEAR 6						
	Rain Player - David Wisniewski (1991)	Can We Save the Tiger? - Martin Jenkins (2011)	The Unforgotten Coat - Frank Cottrell-Boyce (2011)	The Invention of Hugo Cabret - Brian Selznick (2007)	Resist - Tom Palmer (2020)	The Promise - Nicola Davies (2013)
Focus: - sustained engagement with complex texts - critical thinking and interpretation - writing with control, precision and awareness of audience						
This core text curriculum is complemented by the school's Reading for Pleasure Spine, which prioritises regular opportunities for teachers to read aloud to pupils and supports the development of lifelong reading habits.						