LEARNING LIGHTHOUSE
Rooted in TRADITION, Built for TODAY.

ENGLISH

Upper Key Stage 2 · Years 5–6 · Ages 9–11

ENGLISH NATIONAL CURRICULUM | TWO-YEAR ROLLING PROGRAMME

At Learning Lighthouse, English for Years 5–6 develops mature, thoughtful readers and confident communicators. Our interactive online sessions place reading, vocabulary and comprehension alongside spelling, grammar and punctuation. Children discuss rich fiction, poetry, drama and non-fiction, examining how language communicates ideas and influences readers.

Our English curriculum

Rolling Years A and B each offer 38 Tuesday lessons and 38 Thursday lessons: 28 in Autumn, 24 in Spring and 24 in Summer. Both cycles revisit key reading and language skills through different literary genres, texts and investigations.

Rolling Year A

AUTUMN TERM | Classic Fiction, Character and Narrative Voice

Children explore classic and contemporary fiction, character development, narrative viewpoint and the ways writers build atmosphere and tension. Comprehension activities emphasise retrieval, evidence-based inference, prediction, summary and vocabulary in context. Spelling and grammar introduce challenging prefixes and suffixes, relative clauses, modal verbs, adverbials, parenthesis and speech punctuation.

Learning objectives: Read and discuss substantial fiction; justify inferences and predictions; analyse language choices and viewpoint; summarise key developments; recognise and apply relative clauses, modal verbs and parenthetical punctuation.

SPRING TERM | Myths, Poetry, Drama and Figurative Language

Pupils compare myths and traditional narratives and interpret poetry and dramatic extracts. They explore imagery, rhythm, figurative language, themes and performance, while grammar sessions focus on word origins, morphology, degrees of possibility, cohesion, formal and informal expression, and punctuation for meaning.

Learning objectives: Compare and interpret literary forms; explain figurative language and themes; perform extracts confidently; investigate morphology; recognise cohesion and degrees of possibility; and use punctuation accurately.

SUMMER TERM | Non-fiction, Argument and Evaluating Evidence

Children read biographies, reports and persuasive and balanced-argument texts, distinguishing fact from opinion and evaluating evidence. They synthesise information across paragraphs and sources. Language lessons explore precise vocabulary, passive voice, formal language, colons, semicolons, bullet punctuation and statutory spelling patterns where appropriate.

Learning objectives: Retrieve and synthesise information; evaluate evidence and bias; explain authors' purposes; compare sources; recognise formal language and active/passive constructions; and interpret advanced punctuation.

Rolling Year B

AUTUMN TERM | Mystery, Adventure and Close Reading

Mystery and adventure extracts provide fresh opportunities for sustained reading, interpreting implications, tracing plot development and analysing narrative pace. Thursday lessons consolidate Upper Key Stage 2 spelling through roots, endings and homophones, while extending sentence structures, punctuation, pronouns, cohesion and verb forms.

Learning objectives: Explain and support close-reading interpretations; compare narrative techniques; summarise across chapters; distinguish literal and implied meanings; apply morphology, clauses, cohesion and precise punctuation.

SPRING TERM | World Literature, Shakespeare and Language

Pupils encounter retellings and age-appropriate extracts from world literature, Shakespeare, plays and poems. Shared discussions explore character, theme, metaphor, tone and language over time. Spelling and grammar focus on etymology, sophisticated word choice, subjunctive forms in formal contexts, perfect tense, reported speech and punctuation for clarity.

Learning objectives: Compare literary traditions and language; infer character intentions; interpret imagery and tone; present dramatic readings; distinguish formal constructions; and recognise how tense and punctuation shape meaning.

SUMMER TERM | Research, Media Literacy and Critical Comprehension

Children examine scientific and historical information texts, news-style reports, speeches and competing claims. They learn to identify evidence, evaluate reliability, summarise multiple paragraphs and debate reasoned viewpoints. Grammar and spelling lessons consolidate word origins, formal register, passive voice, cohesion, punctuation and the Year 5–6 spelling list.

Learning objectives: Identify main ideas and supporting evidence; evaluate reliability and persuasive devices; synthesise information across sources; participate in structured discussion; and consolidate advanced spelling and grammar.

Our approach to teaching English

Our combined Years 5–6 class follows two complementary rolling years of 76 lessons each. Pupils may begin with either year; teachers differentiate text complexity, questions and exercises for Year 5 and Year 6. Tuesday is dedicated to reading, vocabulary and comprehension; Thursday focuses on spelling, grammar and punctuation. Lessons use shared reading, guided discussion, word challenges and brief collaborative sentence editing, without compulsory homework or extended silent writing. This focused online course addresses selected National Curriculum English objectives, but does not on its own deliver statutory handwriting and extended writing composition.