

Learning at Level 4 in English



A sample of Level 4 English statements that your child will be working on in school:

Speaking & Listening

- Express their ideas or feelings or tell a story clearly.
- Adapt their speech appropriately in more formal situations.
- Work in groups to plan or fulfil a task.
- Take on a specific imagined role.
- Comment on how people's spoken language varies.

Reading

- Read full length books independently.
- Select strategies to help them self-correct when faced with difficult words or unfamiliar texts.
- Read actively, for example, predict what happens next, visualise what is described, speculate about characters' actions and motives.
- Get the point, the moral or the message of a text beyond the literal.
- Read to support their work in all subjects, for example, research a topic in print or on-screen.

Writing

- Write reasonably complex texts independently, developing some ideas in detailed, interesting ways, for example, a newspaper report of an incident including eye witness reports.
- Choose a form of writing appropriate to the purpose and use some words and phrases for effect.
- Use sections or paragraphs to organise their material to help the reader.
- Write complex sentences, using commas accurately.
- Use writing in a variety of forms to support their learning in all subjects.



Understanding progress in English: A guide for parents

What you can do at home to help your child make progress:

Speaking & Listening

- Encourage them to talk clearly and at length about their ideas.
- Listen to and talk about things that are not immediately familiar, such as items on the news.
- Play memory games, taking turns to answer questions about a story or film they've listened to.
- Encourage them to take on specific roles in their social life, for example, in a sports team, after school clubs and discuss.

Reading

- Help them to think about the writer behind the text, for example:
 - Why they chose the language they did?
 - Why they organised the text in that way?
 - What effect they hoped to have on the reader?
- When looking for information in print or on-screen, encourage them to scan ahead and think about how helpful the text is, whether it is a biased or reliable source.
- When they talk about their reading encourage them to refer to evidence in the text that will support their views.
- Get them to share their opinions in different ways, for example, blogging and school Gmail discussions and contributions.

Writing

- Ask them to tell you what are the best features of their writing.
- Discuss possible improvements, for example, how to include more detail, vary the pace of a story, or rephrase a sentence.
- Help them to use their reading to support them as writers, for example, ask them to look at how a writer they like uses varied sentences or organises paragraphs.