



English at The Walnuts

English encompasses all aspects of communication - nonverbal, verbal and written. Work in English promotes learning across the curriculum and underpins pupils' achievements and participation in all aspects of their lives. Reading and writing are present in every aspect of modern life and the ability to read and write are essential to participate fully as a member of society.

Reading and writing will present a considerable challenge for many students on the autism spectrum. At The Walnuts, reading may be interpreted as any activity that leads to the derivation of meaning from visual or tactile representations, for example, objects, pictures, symbols or written words and writing as any activity that communicates and records events, experiences, information, thoughts and feelings using, for example, objects, pictures, photographs, symbols and text.

Developing pupils' skills at the appropriate level to match their individual need will not only enable them to acquire knowledge, but will also aid their communication and support them to achieve maximum independence through learning life skills and enabling decision making. Some pupils will also use reading and writing skills for enjoyment and self-occupation in their leisure time.

