Clifford Bridge Academy

Welcome to Year 1!

September 2026

Aims of the session:

- Meet your **child's new teacher**
- Learn about the **Year 1 curriculum and expectations**
- Understand **key aspects of school life and routines** at Clifford Bridge Academy
- Hear about **key dates, events and experiences** across the year
- Find out how we **work in partnership with families** to support learning at home
- Have time to **ask questions** and seek clarification

Year 1 Teachers:



Mrs Shaw
1S
Year 1/2 Phase Leader

Dear _____

Hello! I wanted to introduce myself to you because I am going to be your new teacher! My name is Mrs Shaw. I am really looking forward to getting to know you. YEAR 1 is going to be an exciting year!

Three things that are interesting about me are:

1. My favourite thing to do is sing- I hope you bring your singing voice into year 2!
2. I love going on long walks with my two children, my husband and my new puppy!
3. I grew up in America and love going back to see family and friends there during breaks!

I can't wait to find out more about you!

Have a great summer holiday!

Love Mrs Shaw



Year 1 Teachers:





Miss Forsythe and Mrs Davies 1F

Dear

We wanted to introduce ourselves to you because we are going to be your new teachers! Our names are Mrs Davies and Miss Forsythe, and we are really looking forward to getting to know you. Mrs Davies will be teaching you from September and Miss Forsythe will teach you when she returns from maternity leave. Three things that you should know about Mrs Davies are:

1. I have two children, called Joshua and Emilia who I talk about a lot!

2. I love to be outdoors and love to hike and go kayaking.

3. My hobbies include reading, baking and eating lots of sweets!

Three things you should know about Miss Forsythe are:

1. I have a daughter called Gracie who is 5 months old.

2. I love anything involving chocolate.

3. I love reading stories, especially silly ones.

I can't wait to find out more about you! Have a great summer holiday!

Mrs Davies and Miss Forsythe





Mrs Davies



Miss Forsythe



Key Adults:



Mrs Turner
Headteacher



Miss Jaques
Deputy
Headteacher



Mrs Sutherland
Pastoral Lead



Miss Coates
Learning Mentor



Mrs Dainty
SENDCO



Mrs Jones
Office Manager



Mr Pittaway
Site Services Officer

Who can I talk to?

Class Teacher

- Available on the door at the start or end of each day for quick comments or feedback.
- Use of Class Dojo/ Tapestry for non-urgent messages which will be responded to during non-teaching hours from 8am-4pm.
- If you feel the problem has not been resolved, please speak to the office to arrange a meeting with the Class Teacher.

Phase Leader

- Following a meeting with the class teacher, if you feel the problem has not been resolved, please speak to the office to arrange a meeting with the Phase Leader.

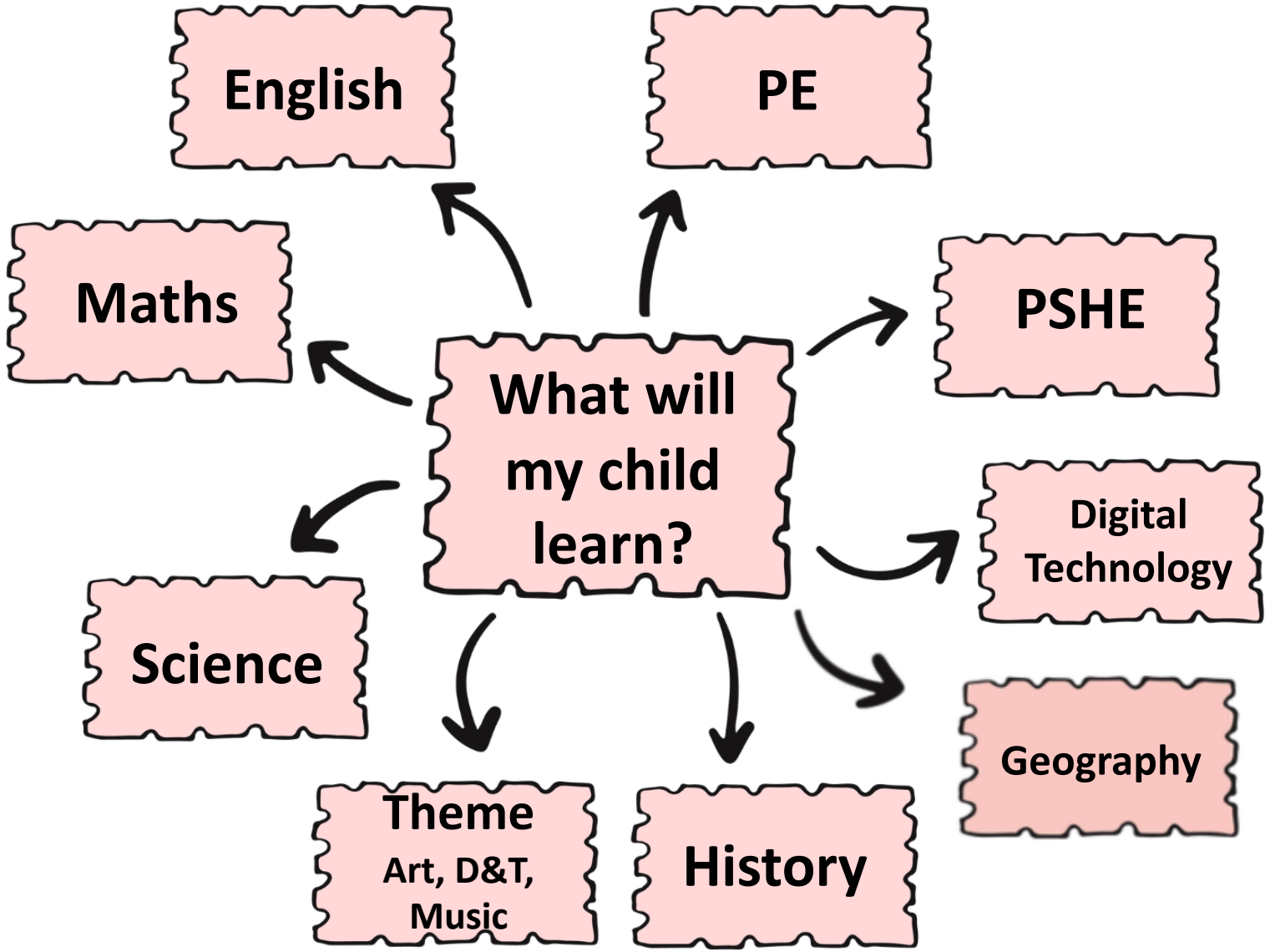
Deputy Headteacher

- If the problem has continued, following a meeting with the Phase Leader, please contact the office to make an appointment with the Deputy Headteacher.

Headteacher

- If the problem has continued, following a meeting with the Deputy Headteacher, please contact the office to make an appointment with the Headteacher.

Year 1 Curriculum Overview:



English in Year 1:

English throughout Year 1 covers the following:

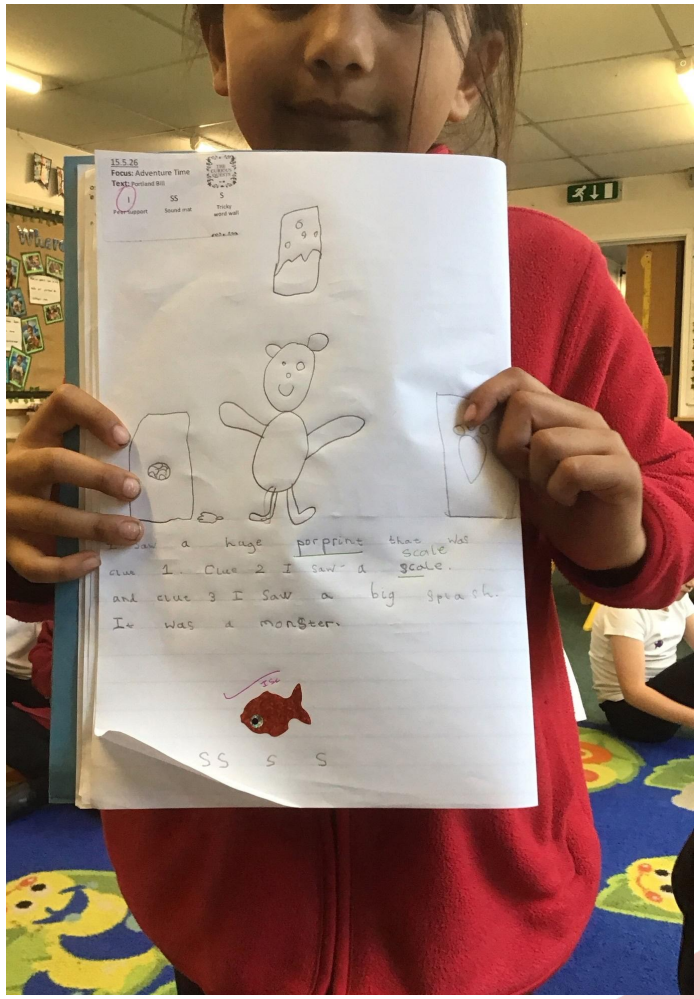
- Reading
- Writing
- Grammar
- Punctuation
- Spelling
- Handwriting



Writing in Year 1:

Key objectives:

- Write simple sentences
- Use capital letters and full stops
- Sound out words using phonics
- Begin to re-read and improve writing



Curious Quests:

Following on from Drawing Club in Reception, we use a creative approach called Curious Quests to support writing.

Children explore stories, characters and adventure themes.

Curious Quests combine:

- Drawing
- Storytelling
- Vocabulary development
- Early writing



Curious Quests:

What does this look like?

- Children listen to high-quality stories
- They draw and discuss ideas before writing
- They are introduced to new vocabulary in a meaningful way
- Writing develops through imagination and creativity

Why does this approach work?

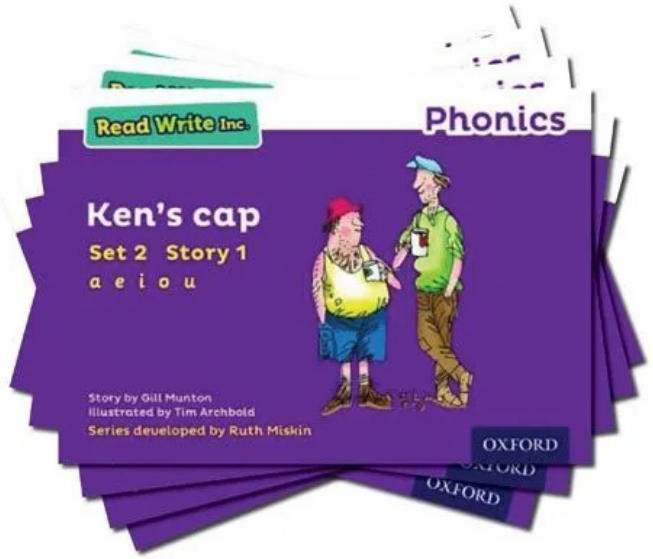
- Builds a love of stories and writing
- Develops oracy and vocabulary
- Supports children to become confident, independent writers

Reading in Year 1:

Read Write Inc. Phonics

Key objectives:

- Learn to read using phonics (Read Write Inc)
- Develop fluency and confidence
- Read regularly at home and school
- Begin to understand what they have read



Grammar, Punctuation, Spelling and Handwriting in Year 1:

Spelling:
- Spell common words correctly
- Use phonics to sound out words
- Begin to use simple suffixes (-s, -es)

Handwriting:
- Form letters correctly
- Begin to write on the line
- Develop pencil control and presentation

Grammar & Punctuation:
- Write simple sentences
- Use capital letters and full stops
- Use 'and' to join ideas
- Use capital letters for names and "I"

Maths in Year 1:

In Year 1 children increase their confidence and fluency in:

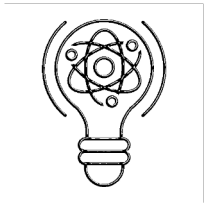
- Counting and number
- Addition and subtraction
- Problem solving

Numbers to 100
Place value
Measuring and comparing
Shape

Science in Year 1:

We will be teaching many science units this year, with exciting titles, such as:

- Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes
- Weather Watchers
- The Pets Factor
- Marvellous Materials
- Plant Detectives
- Into the Wild







PE in Year 1:

It is important to remember that PE is part of the National Curriculum and is compulsory.
Some of the sports we will cover this year are:

Gymnastics
Athletics
Attack, Defend, Shoot
Hit, Catch, Run
Send and Return
Orienteering
Dance

PE Days (to be confirmed):
Wednesday and Thursday



Other Subjects:

Other subjects we will teach this year include:

- **RE:** Develop enquiry skills based upon Christianity and Islam
- **PSHE:** Personal, social and emotional health education
- **History**
- **Geography**
- **Digital Technology:** Introduction to Word Processing, Introduction to Coding and Stop Motion Animation

Statutory Assessment: Phonics Screening Check

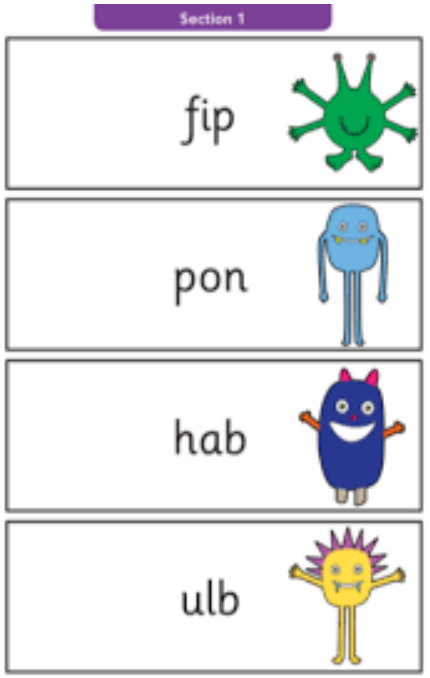
The **Phonics Screening Check** is a statutory assessment for all Year 1 pupils, which takes place in **June.**

What does the check involve?

- Completed 1:1 with their class teacher in a calm environment
- Children read 40 words aloud
- A mix of real words and 'alien' (made up) words

Important to know

- There is a pass mark but no pressure is placed o the children
- Results are shared with parents
- Helps identify children who may need additional support with reading



What is assessed?

- Children's ability to sound out and blend words using phonics
- Focus on decoding skills, not memory

How can you support your child?

- Read regularly at home
- Encourage children to sound out unfamiliar words
- Practise phonics using RWI sounds and books
- Keep reading fun and positive

Uniform and PE Kit:





Reading



- **BoomReader** is our digital reading record, used to log and celebrate reading at home and in school.
- Parents/carers add a short comment after reading, helping us see each child's reading routine and engagement.
- It supports strong communication between home and school and helps us encourage a **love of reading**, not just book levels.

Spelling Shed & TTRockstars

- We use **Spelling Shed** and **Times Tables Rock Stars/Numbots** to support **regular, short practice** at home and in school.

- These programmes help children **build confidence** with spelling patterns and rapid recall of times tables in a fun, engaging way.

- Secure spelling and times tables knowledge supports success across the curriculum, especially as children move through Year 6.

Home Learning

Home learning includes:

- Weekly Spelling Shed assignments
- Reading at least 3 times a week
- TTRockstars
- Inspire Challenge Awards



OPAL

- We follow the **OPAL** (**Outdoor Play and Learning**) approach to ensure all children have high-quality play every day.

- OPAL supports children's physical activity, creativity, independence and social skills through rich and varied play opportunities.

- High-quality play helps children arrive in lessons ready to learn, supporting wellbeing, happiness and positive behaviour.





Enrichment

- We offer a wide range of enrichment opportunities, including **clubs, trips and visitors**, to extend learning beyond the classroom.

- These experiences help children **build confidence, curiosity and real-world understanding**, supporting their personal and social development.

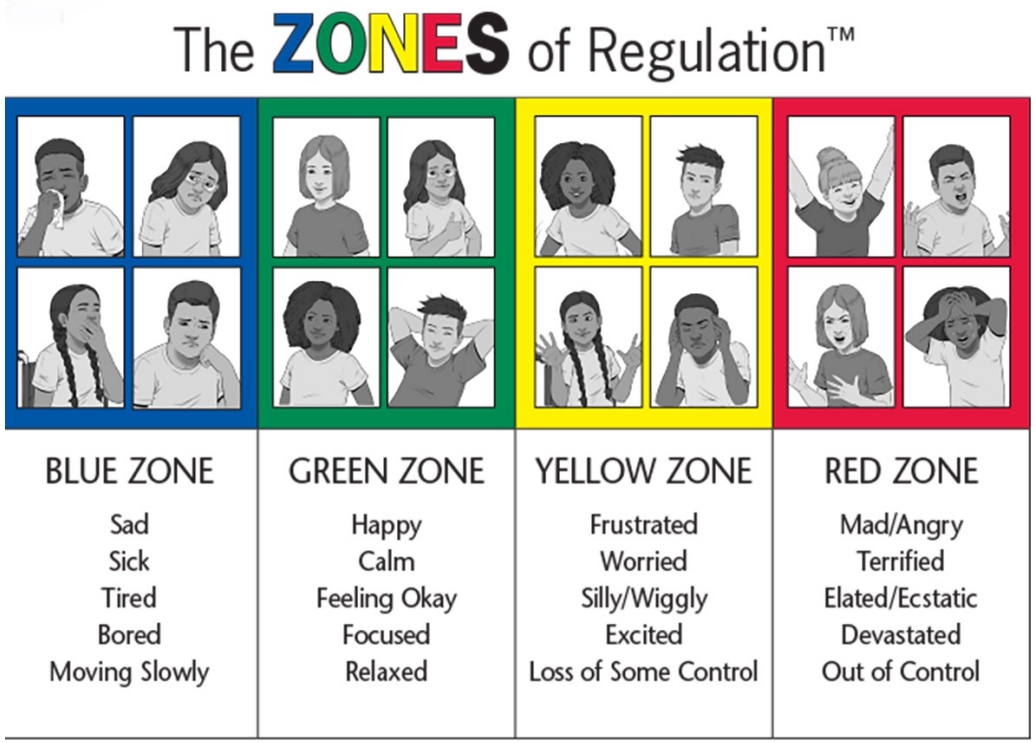
- Through our partnership with the **Heart of England Music Hub**, children have opportunities to engage with high-quality music provision, **developing creativity and a lifelong enjoyment of music**.

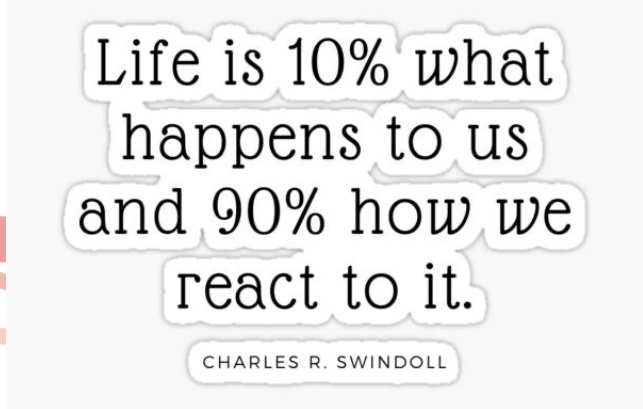
HEART OF ENGLAND music
The Music Hub for Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull
Lead School





Zones of Regulation:





- At Clifford Bridge Academy, we use **The Zones of Regulation** to support children's **emotional wellbeing and behaviour.**

- The programme teaches children **key social and emotional skills**, helping them understand and manage their feelings (**self-regulation**).

- Feelings and emotions are grouped into **four coloured zones,** giving children a simple, shared language to recognise and talk about how they are feeling.

Let's hear from Year 1:

