

Writing



Intent

At Grange Farm Primary School, our curriculum is designed to provide a structured, rich, and progressive learning journey that equips pupils with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to become fluent, expressive, and creative writers. We follow the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum (2014), ensuring that children develop a strong command of spoken and written language and a lifelong love of literature through reading for enjoyment. Teachers have high expectations and are ambitious for all pupils to ensure they get the best possible opportunity to achieve in writing

English has a pre-eminent place in education and wider society and is key to accessing all areas of the curriculum. Therefore, high priority is given to the teaching of writing within our school. Through high-quality English education, pupils learn to communicate their ideas and emotions clearly and effectively, while also understanding and interpreting the ideas and perspectives of others.

Our overarching aim is for all pupils to become confident, independent, and motivated writers who can use writing as a tool for thinking, communication, and creativity — fully prepared for the demands of secondary education and life beyond school.

Implementation

Early Writing and Key Stage 1

In the early stages of writing, our focus is on developing strong transcription skills (handwriting and spelling) from the very beginning of Reception. Early, systematic instruction ensures that children acquire these skills securely, freeing up cognitive capacity for composition as they progress.

Sentence-level teaching underpins our approach, ensuring that pupils develop a deep understanding of how to construct and manipulate sentences effectively. Oral composition is used regularly to help pupils rehearse and internalise language structures before writing independently.

Our lesson sequence is influenced by Pie Corbett's Talk for Writing approach, which builds pupils' knowledge, confidence, and independence through three clear stages:

Imitation – Children develop familiarity with a model text, exploring its structure, characters, settings, and language features through active engagement.

Innovation – Pupils adapt the model text using their own ideas, creating variations while maintaining the underlying structure.

Invention – Pupils apply the skills and techniques they have learned to produce independent, original pieces of writing.

This sequence supports mastery of sentence construction and the development of creative, purposeful writing.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, writing is taught through Jane Considine's The Write Stuff approach, which provides a consistent and cohesive framework across the school. This approach is based on two guiding principles: experience days and sentence stacking lessons.

Using this structure, pupils explore ambitious vocabulary and are taught grammar in context through the Writing Rainbow, which comprises three key lenses:

Fantastics – ideas for writing, **Grammaristics** – tools for writing and **Boomtastics** – techniques for writing.

Experience days immerse children in the context of their writing, enriching their understanding and expanding their vocabulary.

Sentence stacking lessons provide short, focused opportunities to build and refine sentences using the different lenses, allowing children to practise and apply their learning immediately.

Through The Write Stuff, pupils develop a secure understanding of grammar, structure, and style, while also cultivating creativity and individuality as writers. High-quality texts are used as models to inspire writing and expose pupils to a variety of genres, voices, and authorial techniques. Pupils' knowledge of orthography, morphology and etymology, is developed, when appropriate, to help them to spell accurately.

Impact

The impact of our writing curriculum is evident in the progress, confidence, and quality of writing produced across the school. With the writing journey securely embedded and consistently taught, pupils demonstrate sustained learning, transferable skills, and a growing sense of authorship.

By the time pupils reach upper Key Stage 2, most are familiar with a wide range of genres, enabling teaching to focus on creativity, sophistication of language, and manipulation of grammar and punctuation for effect.

We ensure that pupils' attainment is in line with, or exceeds, their individual potential, considering their varied starting points. Progress is measured through independent writing, moderation, and cross-curricular outcomes to ensure consistency and high standards across subjects.

By the end of Key Stage 2, pupils at Grange Farm can:

- Write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences.
- Use grammar, punctuation, and spelling accurately and confidently.
- Plan, draft, edit, and evaluate their writing independently.
- Demonstrate creativity, voice, and control in their written expression.

Ultimately, our writing curriculum ensures that pupils leave Grange Farm with the necessary skills, confidence, and love of writing to succeed in the next stage of their education and beyond.