

The Writing Curriculum at Yeadon Westfield Infant School

Intent

At Yeadon Westfield Infant School we aim to develop a love for the English language in its written and spoken forms. As an infant school, we place a high importance on developing writing skills from nursery including physical and oracy skills. As our pupils progress through KS1 we believe in teaching them to write with skill, clarity and purpose and for them to become confident in expressing themselves through the written word.

In EYFS our children will:

- Develop gross and fine motor skills
- Develop clear diction and oracy skills through the development of the spoken language, vocabulary and questioning
- Learn to write accurately and clearly, forming letters correctly
- Be given access to high-quality texts to use as a stimulus for writing

In KS1 our children will:

- Be given opportunities to write for a range of purposes including narratives, non-fiction reports, letters and recounts. The range of writing purposes increases as the children move through the school.
- Learn to write clearly, accurately and coherently
- Have high expectations of their work and handwriting and begin to develop skills in editing their own work
- Be given access to high-quality texts to use as a stimulus for writing and be given opportunity to practise key skills, grammar focuses and objectives before producing a piece of their own writing

Implementation

EYFS:

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) follows the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and works from the EYFS Development Matters document. The writing process begins as soon as children enter EYFS, developing gross and fine motor skills ready for handwriting. Through drawing club in nursery, a rich exposure to quality texts in reception and adults high quality interactions, children develop their language and oracy skills. Success For All Phonics plays a key and rigorous role in developing children's sound/letter correspondence and early grammar skills.

KS1:

Across KS1, we build up to following a clear writing process. This process allows the children to practise the skills needed for a piece of writing, read high quality example texts and produce detailed plans prior to a writing piece. Our high-quality texts are linked with our topics and our long-term overview ensures we have a variety of texts and genres included in the curriculum. Children are given opportunities to edit and improve their writing from the very start of their writing journey and this develops as they move through school. The children are given in class feedback and specific targets to improve. We believe it is vital that the children are given oral feedback and the support to make changes as well as opportunities to read their work, give peer feedback and share their achievements in writing with others.

Assessment:

In KS1, the children's writing is regularly assessed against the TAF. Writing is monitored frequently across school to ensure staff and children are confident in the teaching and learning of writing. Staff keep up to date with developments in writing with work being done in the ALPT and advice from the Department of Education.

Impact

Our writing curriculum ensures children leave our school with the key skills necessary to continue a successful life-long learning journey. Our children are equipped with the skills to write coherently, with purpose and understand it is an enjoyable subject in which they can express themselves confidently and creatively.