



Writing At Weaver Primary School

INTENT

At Weaver, we understand the importance of the written word, its role in inspiring children and unlocking potential across the curriculum. We are committed to enabling children to acquire the skills that will allow them to achieve success both academically and personally throughout their lives. We aim for all children to develop a love of writing so they can express and communicate their knowledge, ideas and emotions clearly and creatively through the written word. Our intention is to develop confident writers who have a clear understanding of the essential skills of grammar, punctuation, spelling and handwriting; writers who can rehearse, plan, proof-read and edit in order to produce written work appropriate for the purpose and audience. In short, quality, cohesive written work which they themselves are proud of.

IMPLEMENTATION

English is taught daily from EYFS to Year 6. Each class uses high quality texts to teach, speaking, listening, reading and writing. Planning from Literacy Counts (Read to Write), written by English Consultants is used as a basis for teaching writing skills, and is adapted by Weaver teachers for bespoke delivery for each year group's individual needs. Alongside the materials from Literacy Counts, planning from Rising Stars (Read into Writing) and unit planning written by teachers are incorporated into the planning and Class Book Spines. For writing, each teacher will use a 'vehicle text.' Children will be immersed in the text, they will analyse the structure and language features, gather ideas and writer hints before creating a longer piece of writing. The writing process incorporates modelled and guided writing before independent writing, proof-reading and editing. Grammar and punctuation is taught in English lessons through the vehicle texts as well as in separate sessions to embed the necessary skills. To ensure retention and confident use of grammar and punctuation skills, children do regular short sentence 'flashback' activities. As well as writing in English lessons, writing is also a key focus in the wider curriculum. Children are given opportunity to write in different curriculum areas, for different purposes and audiences using a range of genres, transferring the skills taught in English.

Handwriting is taught from EYFS upwards. Initially, letter formation is taught through RWI. Once using the correct letter formation, children from Year 1 will have lessons to develop a joined handwriting style based on Nelson Handwriting.

Spelling is taught daily in EYFS and KS1 through RWI phonics lessons. In KS2, children will be taught spelling rules appropriate to their age group as well as working on any gaps in their knowledge. Children will carry out activities in class to learn about particular spelling patterns and rules. Spelling Frame will then be used, both at school and at home, to continue practising and consolidating the rules. Children who have been identified as having specific spelling issues, will use IDL as an intervention program to build confidence and narrow gaps.

Our teaching of Writing includes:

- A class reading spine of quality texts to immerse children in quality writing.
- Vehicle texts through the Literacy Counts Read to Write programme (or other suitable texts) to drive quality, cohesive writing of different genres
- English Working Walls with Writer Hints
- The teaching of grammar and punctuation through the vehicle text as well as separate lessons when appropriate
- Sentence Flashback activities
- Handwriting lessons to achieve a fluent, consistent style
- Spelling Activities and Spelling Frame to learn and practise spelling rules
- Use of IDL to narrow gaps
- Writing and poetry days to inspire children

IMPACT

At Weaver, there will be a consistent approach to writing across the school which will be evident in children's books and on displays. By the end of KS2, children will write clearly and accurately, using a wide vocabulary and adapting their language and style for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. Formative assessment will be carried out throughout the learning journey. Progress will be measured through lesson observations, questioning, discussions and marking. The attainment of objectives will be tracked on Insight, and a main teacher assessment will be recorded each term. When children leave the Weaver, we aim to have fostered a love of words and language; enabling them to experiment with words, be confident writers and be well-equipped for writing in their future lives.