Writing Curriculum: Intent, Implementation, Impact



Intent

At Ashbury Meadow Primary School, we believe that the ability to write with confidence and accuracy is an essential life skill.

It is our intent to have a stimulating and engaging, high-quality writing curriculum that inspires our children to succeed and excel in all aspects of English. We do this through fully adhering to the aims of the National Curriculum and fostering a healthy curiosity and interest in writing.

We believe writing encompasses the acquisition of knowledge and breeds a positive attitude to learning, teaching perseverance, and empowering our children to be confident, intelligent and effective communicators through writing. Throughout the curriculum, we aim for the children to acquire and develop the key writing knowledge that has been identified across each year group, as well as the

Implementation

Writing is a key component of our curriculum at Ashbury Meadow Primary School. We teach writing at Ashbury Meadow Primary School through the principles of Jane Considine's The Write Stuff approach. This is used to deliver the compositional aims of the National Curriculum and to ensure that our pupils are able to 'read as a writer and write as a reader'.

Narrative, non-narrative and poetry units are taught throughout the year in Years 1 to 6. Units are carefully sequenced to ensure a spiral curriculum and are chosen to match the content of the National Curriculum for the Programme of Study (POS) and to create meaningful links, where possible. Each unit has a similar structure, comprising three key areas: experience days, sentence stacking sessions and independent writing. The amount of these varies in each unit, and teachers are encouraged to adapt these to meet the needs of their cohorts.

We use the Fantastics, Grammaristics and Boomtastics acronyms to develop ideas ideas, tools and techinques in writing respectively. Children take part in experience days, sentence stacking lessons, grammar lessons and independent writing sequences.

Sentence stacking lessons support breaking down lesson skills into smaller chunks to make learning more accessible and immediate through high quality writing and models.

Within their final piece of writing, students create an initial draft of their writing before editing and re-drafting their writing to create a final piece. Editing and re-drafting can be seen through the use of purple pen within their writing.

EYFS:

In the EYFS, children are encouraged to develop their own emergent writing and their efforts are valued and praised. As their phonic knowledge increases, this will be evident in their writing. At the same time, their knowledge of key words and language is supported through reading and writing activities, including shared reading and writing focus groups. The basics of how to form a letter, spell a word, leave a space, or use a full stop are demonstrated and later followed by the more sophisticated strategies of modelling the planning, drafting and proof-

Impact

English lessons are stimulating and support children to develop the skills of a resilient writer. This supports students to make progress against the National Curriculum Objectives and develop their skills to:

- Write with confidence, clarity and imagination;
- Understand and apply their knowledge of phonics, grammar and spelling accurately;
- Understand how to write for a range of purposes and audience, in a range of genres (including fiction, non-fiction and poetry), using the appropriate style, structure and features;
- Plan, draft, revise and edit their own work, and learn how to self and peer assess against toolkits;
- Develop a technical vocabulary through which to understand and discuss their writing;
- Develop their imagination, creativity, expressive language and critical awareness.

Through clear curriculum sequencing, where prior knowledge is identified and retrieved and future knowledge is explicitly linked through the key concepts

application of high-quality vocabulary, handwriting and spelling. We also aim to ensure that our children continually apply their English skills across the curriculum through purposeful writing opportunities.

reading of writing across a range of genres. Children are taught using the Fantastic Foundations for EYFS approach by Jane Considine. This is based on three guiding principles:

- 1. Understanding the uniqueness of each child
- 2. Nurturing deep talk and developing listening
- 3. Providing a rich repertoire of real and imagined experiences to ignite writing

A wide variety of opportunities are provided for the children to engage in writing activities in both the indoor and outdoor environments. These include:

- Weekly focus groups
- Role play areas
- Opportunities to explore mark making
- Rainbow challenge activities

Adaptive Teaching:

In order to support all pupils in accessing the writing curriculum, teachers ensure all lessons are adapted to meet needs. This includes modification of writing targets relevant to the child, altering of texts to be at an accessible level and use of strategies such as colourful semantics to allow children to develop their writing skills. Children are guided by the principles of the Write Stuff by Jane Considine to support them within their learning and are adapted to allow them to make progress.

Handwriting:

At Ashbury Meadow Primary School, handwriting is taught through the Letter Join Scheme across Key Stage 1 and 2. Each class takes part in 3 lessons per week to develop their style of handwriting to a cursive joined font by the end of Key Stage 2.

Spelling:

Spelling is taught through the Spelling Shed scheme which is fully aligned to the National Curriculum 2014. Children take part in a weekly spelling lesson as part of their English learning that focuses on a set rule to develop their spelling abilities.

Writing across the curriculum:

Students have the opportunity to take part in writing across the curriculum to write for a range of different audiences and purposes as we believe this is important to see themselves as writers and apply their skills.

at the heart of the curriculum, pupils proficiently build their bodies of knowledge.