

ST NEOT SCHOOL

Writing Rationale

Writing is important in everyday life. It is integral to all aspects of life and, with this in mind; we endeavour to ensure that children develop a healthy and enthusiastic attitude towards writing that will stay with them. Writing enables pupils to communicate with people around the world. Building on experiences - it encourages thinking and communication skills to grow.

A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to write fluently so they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society. The overarching aim for English in the national curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written language, ensuring they can write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. We aspire that every child is able to write fluently and competently for a range of purposes, possessing the skills for life ahead.

Intent

Our aims at St. Neot are:

1. Have a positive attitude towards writing.
2. Write with confidence, clarity and imagination.
3. Understand and apply their knowledge of phonics and spelling.
4. Write in a range of genres (including fiction, non-fiction and poetry).
5. Plan, draft, revise and edit their own work, and learn how to self and peer assess against the success criteria.
6. Develop a technical vocabulary through which to understand and discuss their writing.
7. Develop their imagination, creativity, expressive language and critical awareness through their writing.
8. Write clearly, accurately and effectively for a range of audiences and purposes.

Writing is taught daily throughout the school. Teaching follows a sequence of progressive learning steps, which build towards an end result. Our writing units are usually based around a writing genre or a quality, stimulating text. Emphasis is also placed on exposing the children, at every opportunity, to higher-level vocabulary. Drafting and editing is key to this process of writing to provide children with the opportunity to improve their writing.

Implementation

Writing in EYFS

Children have access to a range of early mark-making and preparatory writing materials both indoors and outdoors. Children are encouraged to explore writing for meaning within their own play explorations and to quantify their early ideas. Our prepared environments support children's emergent writing wherever they may be, by developing links between concrete exploration and literacy.

Writing in KS1/2 will include:

- High quality text
- Vocabulary collection
- Stimulus – arts/drama/film/music/photos
- New grammar and punctuation
- Recall of previously taught grammar and punctuation
- Planning and talking about writing
- Draft – modelled/shared/guided writing opportunity
- Editing
- Final writing with peer review

We aim to plan meaningful and, where possible, real life purposes and audiences for writing within and beyond the classroom. We plan purposes, which require the children to write in a variety of genres, which allows them to apply their understanding of a range of different text types. From Year 1 to Year 6, teachers use the sequence of learning to inform their planning. Every class, uses quality texts or parts of texts to stimulate the children and allow for planning

of creative teaching and writing experiences. These experiences give children the opportunity to apply what they have learnt and progress in their writing. We teach pupils to plan, proofread, redraft and present their work appropriately taking pride in what they have achieved. We are constantly exposing children to new vocabulary and encouraging them to use it in their writing. We explicitly teach spelling patterns and rules from the National Curriculum and expect children to use these regularly in their writing.

We seek to ensure that planning delivers the requirements of The National Curriculum for England 2014 and is suited to all needs of children in all groups. We endeavour to provide every child with a creative, enjoyable and developmental teaching sequence of learning for writing. We support our delivery of the writing curriculum through high-quality resources, including: Spelling Shed, Literacy Shed + and Wordsmith. We develop our children's handwriting skills through following the Nelson Handwriting Scheme throughout the school.

Our planning ensures that:

- There is a clear focus on outcomes
- There are appropriate and achievable learning objectives for all pupils
- We address the needs of pupils who work below or above age-related expectations
- Teaching challenges all pupils' to ensure progress
- There is continuity and progression in pupils' learning
- There is balanced coverage of word, sentence and text-level learning
- There are opportunities for pupils to reflect upon their own progress
- Draws links with other areas of the curriculum, where appropriate.

Assessment of writing

Assessment is regarded as an integral part of teaching and learning and is a continuous process. At St. Neot Primary School, we are continually assessing our pupils' and recording their progress, allowing us to ensure that the work are provided with is challenging and will further their progress. Assessment also enables staff to identify children who need further additional/targeted support in their learning. We assess formatively during the lessons and whilst reviewing the children's work. We also use summative assessment through regular 'distance writes' which give the children opportunities to demonstrate their writing skills.

Impact: to be reviewed at the end of each year

Expected Standards	Key Stage 1 Writing			
Year	Pupils	School	LA	Nat
2017	10	90.0%	65%	68%
2018	12	91.7%	66%	70%
2019	14	78.6%	65%	69%

Greater Depth	Key Stage 1 Writing			
Year	Pupils	School	LA	Nat
2017	10	0.0%	16%	16%
2018	12	16.7%	14%	16%
2019	14	7.1%	13%	15%

Expected Standards	Key Stage 2 Writing			
Year	Pupils	School	LA	Nat
2017	9	88.9%	76%	76%
2018	11	72.7%	77%	78%
2019	12	83.3%	77%	79%

Greater Depth	Key Stage 2 Writing			
Year	Pupils	School	LA	Nat
2017	9	11.1%	20%	18%
2018	11	36.4%	21%	20%
2019	12	25.0%	19%	20%