

SUBJECT

Writing

At The Avenue, we are determined to help our children develop into confident and effective communicators of the written and spoken form.



OVERVIEW

Intent: We aim to...



Use high quality texts and models to enable pupils to accurately choose grammar, vocabulary and punctuation which is effective for both audience and purpose

Make the planning, drafting, writing and editing stages of writing explicit so that children experience 'live' the choices a writer makes

Provide children with the ideas, tools and techniques for writing so that they are able to communicate their own ideas

Make links across the curriculum with our writing units so that pupils are able to write knowledgeably and effectively across all subject areas

Ensure that pupils are taught a range of genres across the school which means they can communicate their learning appropriately

Develop a consistent approach to teaching writing in order to close gaps and ensure that all children leave in year 6 being able to write effectively

Implementation: How do we achieve our aims?

We believe that having ideas, understanding how to use grammatical constructs to turn these ideas into meaning, and bringing this meaning to life through authorial language choice are essential in enabling children to communicate effectively. We ensure children are immersed in a flourishing environment that values speaking, listening and the development of language as a vital part of the writing process. We use Jane Considine's The Write Stuff methodology to ensure pupils are explicitly taught the craft of writing.

Learning to Write



Teaching sequences include experience days and sentence stacking lessons, that have modelling at the heart of them. **Sentences are taught under the structural framework of The Writing Rainbow** teachers prepare children for writing by modelling for the ideas, grammar or techniques of writing

The Ideas of Writing

Feeling
Asking
Noticing
Touching
Action
Smelling
Tasting
Imagining
Checking

The Grammar of Writing

Adverbials and adverbial forms
Basics (word classes)
Complex sentences
Dialogue and contracted forms
Structure and style
Purpose
Paragraphs
Passive or Active voice
Past and present tense
Punctuation

The Techniques of Writing

*KS1, KS2 all
Simile*
Alliteration*
Rhyme*
Onomatopoeia*
Repetition*
Personification
Pun
Symbolism
Pathetic Fallacy
Metaphor

Explicit teaching:

- Experience lessons stimulate ideas, and are used thoughtfully to further generate ideas and vocabulary for writing
- Each Sentence Stacking lesson is organised into three learning chunks to stimulate, model and enable pupils to build clear and progressively rich language alongside contextualised application of specific writing objectives
- Each sentence stacking lesson is based around another 'plot point' for narrative, or part of the 'shape' for non-fiction genres

Lesson structure:

Initiate: teacher shares a stimulus e.g. Film clip picture, drama; word gathering and discussion; 'chotting' – pupils chat and jot words they want to use in their exercise books/whiteboards
Modelling: the teacher does [demonstration writing](#), explicitly explaining choices of words etc, using 2-3 lenses from the Writing Rainbow, modelling thesaurus thinking – to write three sentences, using vocabulary gathered in the initiate stage
Enable: Being clear about the sentence idea, the children are then asked to write their sentences sticking to the clear criteria. The children have their 'chottings' to support their word choices.
For every sentence written: children need to think about the IDEA of writing and the INTENT – e.g. positive or negative – that will affect word choice

Writing Independently



Independent Writing

Pupils apply their learning from the sentence stacking lessons to a new task based around the text/genre. They plan, choose lenses from the writing rainbow and write independently, using the vocabulary they have gathered, and examples of sentences structures and generic features they have learnt. Pupils are given the opportunity to practice writing in a range of styles and genres.

Editing:

During the Independent Write it is crucial that children's errors or amendments are highlighted directly but in a way that expects the children to use their knowledge and understanding to address. The final part of the writing process looks at revision of what has been crafted.

The suggested approach is to interrogate the writing in three ways. Teachers use this code to encourage pupils to edit their work:

- E1 = Revise - spelling, punctuation
- E2= Rewrite i.e. a *sentence is re-written by the child (no guidance is given regarding why it needs a rewrite)
- E3= Re-imagine ...tell me more- write additional sentences or sentences

Pupils have to check their work and make decisions about what needs to be revised, rewritten or reimagined.

Support and Challenge:

The use of a visual narrative or shape map in the classroom for sentence stacking lessons, the structured explicit nature of those lessons, and the writing rainbow supports weaker writers. More able writers are encouraged to 'deepen the moment', and to extend detail or make independent choices in the sentence stacking lessons and in independent work, using their knowledge of the writing rainbow.

Links to reading



Choice of text; The fiction books used as stimulus for may be linked to history, geography or science. For non-fiction pieces, the stimulus is also used as a model. Some units are chosen for exposure to a range of genres.

Cross curricular opportunities

By the end of KS2, most genres of writing are familiar to pupils and teaching can focus on creativity, writer's craft, sustained writing and manipulation of grammar and punctuation skills when writing in other areas of the curriculum.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Spelling: From Yr 3 up:

The Spelling Shed scheme is used as an effective and fully comprehensive approach. Pupils learn spelling rules and exceptions and how to apply in their writing

PAG: from Year 2 up – new PAG knowledge is taught in discrete lessons, in line with progression documents. Within Basic Skills sessions and writing lessons, PAG knowledge is revised and consolidated in context

Handwriting

From EYFS pupils are taught how to hold a pencil and to use the Little Wandle letter formation to be able to print words. From Year 1 upwards, the Letterjoin scheme is used to teach and practice handwriting.

✓ **Impact:** how will we know we have achieved our intent?



Pupils can write effectively to engage with the reader and apply their learning from exposure to a range of high quality models.



Pupils are accurate and creative writers who have increasing stamina for writing



Children can draw on a range of Ideas, tools and techniques for writing so that they are able to communicate their own ideas AND apply these in reading



Pupils can effectively articulate their knowledge in other subject areas through the accurate use of writing skills



Pupils can confidently write using the features, vocabulary and structure of each genre



Pupils achieve the age-related expectations for writing, and those that find writing challenging are given focused support to help them catch up