

Writing Curriculum

Intent

At Hazel Wood Infant School, we aim to give children a **Journey of Opportunities** that develop a love of writing based upon **independence, creativity, resilience** and **being a team player**. The children will be able to express their thoughts and ideas clearly and creatively through the written word. We intend to create writers who can re-read, edit and improve their own writing, and enable children to be able to confidently use the essential skills of grammar, punctuation and spelling. We set high expectations for all our children to take pride in their work and have a fluent, cursive handwriting style alongside allowing their imaginations to flourish.

Implementation

The teaching of writing across the school follows the National Curriculum and Communication and Language and Literacy in EYFS, through the use of conversation, questioning, story-telling and role play. We teach writing skills through a well thought out unit of work that enables children to make links, apply taught skills in a context and see a purpose to their work. We give our children many opportunities to apply their learning in different contexts. Children see their teachers write daily and know that effective writing takes time and effort. We frequently model the writing and editing process in front of our classes and encourage pupil input through shared and guided writing. By teaching this way, we can scaffold and support our children's writing and share quality examples of writing. We provide the children with opportunities to develop a rich vocabulary that will help them bring their own writing to life.

Children are taught correct letter formation from the very beginning of their time in school. The children are taught to sit properly in order to have the correct posture for writing, hold a pencil in the correct position and develop a legible handwriting style. The school adopts a cursive handwriting style where teachers are expected to role model the school's handwriting style when marking children's work, writing on the board and on displays around the school.

Children follow the Read Write Inc phonics scheme and spelling programme each day. Through teaching how to segment, by exploring spelling patterns and rules, we aim to create confident and proficient spellers using a discrete teaching approach underpinned by phonics. Children are taught to recognise and use word origins, families and roots to build their skills.

We encourage children to spell accurately and identify reasons for mis-spellings by proof-reading their spellings and using dictionaries and thesauruses.

Impact

When children leave our school their learning and experiences in writing will have enabled them to become more independent when writing for a range of purposes and audiences. Their ability to show resilience and creativity when writing will ensure that writing for pleasure is more likely to be successful. The pupil's knowledge, understanding and skills when writing ensures that children can apply themselves in other areas of the curriculum. Learning to write will inspire our children and fire up their imaginations, ensuring they have a lifelong love of writing.