

St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School



WRITING CURRICULUM STATEMENT

Intent

Here at St Mary's we prioritise the teaching of writing as both a core subject, and one which unlocks opportunity in all other subjects. We want our children to leave St Mary's as effective communicators in all genres of writing, with cursive handwriting, and for them to have a clear knowledge of spelling rules.

Implementation

- Pathways to Write structures the foundations of the English planning across the school and wider resources including those from The Literacy Shed, Literacy Counts and others are used to enhance the teaching of writing within the wider curriculum.
- Writing opportunities are carefully planned so that they are progressive and appropriate for the ability of our children.
- We teach writing as whole class lessons, so that all children have access to the age-related knowledge contained within the National Curriculum.
- In KS1, teachers show pupils the relationship between reading sounds and words and help to develop their understanding of using this knowledge to spell words.
- KS2 Use the No-Nonsense Spelling programme after the Letters and Sounds programme and KS1 curriculum have been completed.
- Following the no-nonsense scheme, intervention groups are available to children who are struggling with spelling or have gaps in knowledge.
- We use engaging texts to inspire, engage and motivate children's writing.
- Teachers embed skills throughout the year in cross-curricular writing opportunities.
- The teaching of writing and spelling will be monitored to ensure consistency. Monitoring will be led by the SLT and Subject Leaders with governor support.
- In KS2, personalised spellings lists are sent home to support learning.
- Spelling tests take place weekly in all key stages, relating to the stage of spelling that your child is at.
- Children will be involved in the assessment of their progress and receive regular supportive feedback on their work.
- When working on handwriting, children are able to gain a 'pen license' when they have the skills they need to form letters accurately and joining their writing. A pen license can be revoked if a child's standard of handwriting drops.

Impact

In all stages of learning at St Mary's, children feel supported in their writing journey. They expect challenge and are building resilience when it comes to spelling and handwriting. Children show versatility in their writing, which has been looked at in book scrutinies. They are using cross-curricular opportunities to embed skills and further their knowledge of communicating different genres effectively. By the time children are ready to leave St Mary's, most children have clear, cursive handwriting and a good understanding of spelling rules, applying these rules daily.