



All things are possible for those who believe. (Mark 9:23)

Learning together we grow in faith.

Curriculum Statement – English – Writing

Intent

At Little Heaton C.E. Primary School, we strive to help our children develop into articulate and imaginative communicators, who are well-equipped with the basic skills they need to become life-long learners; English learning is key in this. We aim to ensure all of our children develop a genuine love of language and the written word. We ensure that children develop an understanding of how widely writing is used in everyday life and, therefore, how important and useful the skills are that they are learning.

Our intentions in writing are for children to:

- Write for a purpose
- See themselves as real writers
- Take ownership of their writing
- See writing as an interesting and enjoyable process
- Acquire the ability to organise and plan their written work

Implementation

At Little Heaton, our curriculum is shaped by our school vision which aims to enable all children, regardless of background, ability or additional needs to flourish to become the very best version of themselves they can possibly be. We teach aims of the National Curriculum, supported by a clear skills and knowledge progression supported and structured through our use of the Talk 4 Writing scheme. This is a structured programme which is taught through our English lessons. A wide range of genres are taught and through careful guided writing by the teachers the children are equipped with the knowledge they need to write their own stories and texts. They are also given opportunities to reflect on their writing and edit and improve. A lot of the skills built up in our reading sessions are transferrable to our writing and children strive to improve structure and include high level vocabulary in their independent writing.

Throughout the Early Years and Key Stage 1 children are taught the key principles of writing in order to lay a solid foundation for developing their skills later on. An emphasis is placed on developing clear handwriting with 'finger spaces' between in each word. Children are taught to apply their knowledge of phonics to help them spell accurately, and to structure their work, whether it be fiction writing or a set of instructions. As the children progress through key stage two we develop their use of sophisticated vocabulary and structures. Our curriculum teaches the children to add variation and description to their work by developing their vocabulary, including the use of interesting adjectives and adverbs and developing sentence structure using conjunctions and sentence openers.

We have high expectations of presentation and handwriting practice takes place regularly throughout the week. Spelling is taught from Year 2 – 6 every week, following the structure and teaching strategies from No-Nonsense Spelling, which build on the National Curriculum's statutory word lists and spelling patterns. Spellings are sent home as part of home learning via Purple Mash and children are tested each week. Pupils are taught discrete punctuation and grammar skills, appropriate to their year group, within our writing lessons, allowing opportunities to identify, practice and consolidate grammatical understanding, whilst also being immersed in a text. Children then apply the grammar and punctuation skills that they have learnt in their extended pieces of writing

Impact

Regardless of background, ability or additional needs, by the time children leave Little Heaton, they will:

- Have a love for writing and write for enjoyment
- Be able to produce written work in all areas of the curriculum to a high standard
- Be confident to write for a range of different purposes