



KS1

Writing Policy

2024-2025

KS1 Writing Policy

1. Introduction

Our aim is to nurture confident, enthusiastic, and capable writers in KS1. Writing is a fundamental skill that supports children's ability to communicate effectively and express themselves. This policy outlines our approach to teaching writing, integrating Read Write Inc. (RWI) phonics, the use of dictated sentences, and strategies for developing composition skills.

2. Objectives

- Develop pupils' phonetic awareness and transcription skills to improve spelling and word construction.
- Encourage creativity, fluency, and confidence in writing through structured activities and free expression.
- Ensure children understand the purpose of writing, including how to plan, draft, and edit their work.
- Promote a love for writing across various genres and contexts.

2. Integration with Read Write Inc. (RWI)

RWI phonics is the foundation of our approach to early writing in KS1. The program supports children's ability to:

- Recognise phonemes and match them to graphemes.
- Blend sounds to read and segment to spell words.
- Develop fine motor skills for handwriting and letter formation.

Children are given daily opportunities to apply their phonics knowledge in writing activities, including:

- Writing words and sentences using known sounds and red words (high-frequency words that are not phonetic).
- Engaging in 'hold a sentence' activities where they rehearse and write sentences accurately.
- Developing spelling strategies through RWI's systematic approach to learning and applying phonics.

3. Use of Dictated Sentences

Dictated sentences help children practice key aspects of writing, such as:

- Listening carefully to spoken words and sentences.
- Developing accurate spelling and grammar skills.
- Reinforcing the link between sounds and written words.
- Building confidence in their ability to write longer, more complex sentences.

Teachers will regularly use dictated sentences to assess children's understanding of phonics, punctuation, and word usage. This activity supports fluency by encouraging children to write quickly and confidently without losing accuracy.

4. Developing Composition Skills

Composition is about more than just spelling and grammar; it involves the ability to think creatively, organise ideas, and express thoughts clearly. Our approach includes:

- **Storytelling and Oral Rehearsal:** Before writing, children are encouraged to talk through their ideas, structure their thoughts, and use a range of vocabulary. This step helps build confidence and coherence in their written work.
- **Planning and Drafting:** Pupils are taught to plan their writing by using story maps, word banks, and sentence starters. For more complex pieces, they will learn how to draft, revise, and edit their work.
- **Genre Exploration:** Children will have opportunities to write in various styles, including narratives, recounts, instructions, letters, and poetry. This range helps them understand different writing structures and purposes.
- **Teacher Modelling and Shared Writing:** Teachers demonstrate writing by thinking aloud, showing how to structure sentences, use punctuation, and build coherent narratives. Shared writing sessions allow children to contribute ideas and see how these are shaped into a written piece.
- **Exposure to High Quality Texts:** Pupils exposure to texts and carefully planned vocabulary supports pupils to incorporate such language and adopt author's styles when composing their own sentences.

5. Assessing and Celebrating Writing

Assessment is continuous and supports the planning of future lessons. Teachers provide feedback on:

- Spelling, punctuation, and grammar (SPaG).
- Sentence structure, coherence, and vocabulary usage.
- Progress in applying phonics knowledge in writing.

We celebrate children's achievements in writing by:

- Displaying written work in classrooms and around the school.
- Reading children's writing aloud in class.
- Creating composition floor books to celebrate pupils' ideas.

6. Supporting SEND Pupils

Differentiation is essential to ensure all pupils, including those with SEND, can access writing activities. This may include:

- Stage appropriate dictation (word, phrase or sentence)
- Additional visual aids, word banks, and sentence starters.
- One-to-one or small group sessions focused on specific writing skills (incorporation of Drawing Club)

7. Conclusion

Our KS1 writing policy aims to create a strong foundation for future learning by integrating structured phonics teaching with opportunities for creativity and expression. By fostering a supportive, inclusive environment, we ensure all children can develop the confidence and skills to become competent, independent writers.

Review This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its ongoing relevance and success in meeting the developmental needs of children.

Policy Approval and Review Date

- **Approved by:** N. Kitchen Head Teacher
- **Date of Approval:** 24.10.2024
- **Review Date:** 24.10.2025