



Writing at Gaskell Primary School

Intent:

To unite all the elements of the English language, including speaking and listening, spelling, grammar and punctuation, to encourage confident, competent and creative writers and to inspire a love of writing.

Why do all children at Gaskell Primary School need to study Writing?

Writing is a fundamental, intrinsic part of our lives. Our children are constantly making connections about the world around them, asking questions, forming their own thoughts and opinions, sorting and classifying details and experiences as they grow, and writing gives them the tools they need to transform what they think and know into words. At Gaskell, our children communicate in many different ways, means and languages. Writing is a natural extension of speech, and vital for aiding and honing communication skills in order to become confident individuals.

What are the aims for the Writing Curriculum?

- To acquire a wide ranging, rich and plentiful bank of vocabulary in order to understand and decode the world around them and express their thoughts, opinions and emotions through words.
- To understand and express the “nuances of meaning” through figurative language and writing strategies which allow children to build a bridge between their imagination and written worlds.
- To become fluent writers by adhering to the school handwriting policy and spelling quickly and accurately, knowing the relationship between sounds and letters and the structure of words.
- To inspire a love and passion for writing in even the most reluctant of writers by providing cross curricular writing opportunities that appeal to all interests and skill levels.
- To embed a deep understanding of grammatical rules and punctuation to provide structure to their writing and an understanding of language
- To instil confidence through spoken word, debate and drama, providing a platform to express thoughts and opinions and connecting oral and written worlds

The National Curriculum for Writing aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Can articulate and communicate their ideas, and organise them coherently for their audience
- Are able to clarify the meaning of unknown words and build a copious bank of vocabulary



- Use the elements of spelling, grammar and punctuation to control spoken and written English consciously and confidently

What values and drivers underpin the current curriculum content?

At Gaskell we have key values and drivers which support our children *'to become successful citizens in today and tomorrow's world'*. In Writing we show:

Happiness: We use different writing techniques and styles to express our emotions

Empathy: We explore current and global topics to develop our opinions and thoughts about the world around us

Ambition: We aspire to be excellent communicators through our written and spoken worlds

Respect: We respect our local community, wider community and the world around us.

Resilience: We appreciate some aspects of writing and communicating can be tricky and learn from our mistakes

Tolerance: We respect that others may have different opinions to us and we can share them without judgement

Self-confidence: We are confident in our abilities, trying new strategies and styles to become self-assured communicators

In Writing we are:

Healthy Pioneers: Writing gives us the tools to communicate our emotions and use the correct vocabulary to allow us to express ourselves, in order to develop mentally.

World Citizens: Our children will develop an understanding about where they live and the wider world. Through learning about the world, they will understand their role in today and tomorrow's world by developing respect and tolerance towards the environment. Children are encouraged to challenge themselves to gain high aspirations about what their future 'world of work' may look like.

Avid Adventurers: We are passionate that children are excited about the real world. We believe that a curriculum rich in real life experiences develops confidence and resilience. We want them to know that life exists outside school, their home and local community. Writing provides the tools to sort and classify these experiences and describe them in a way that is organised,



creative and detailed. These learning experiences will ignite the imagination and advance their knowledge and understanding, taking into account their diverse starting points and enrich their experiences of life.

Confident Communicators: In Writing, we will read widely to broaden horizons, develop imagination and provide a rich vocabulary through which to construct knowledge and understanding of the world. We will be encouraged to write confidently, for a range of purpose and audiences. We will give the children opportunities to think critically by solving problems and making choices.

Creative Minds: Individuality and self-expression is promoted through Writing whilst developing resilience, resourcefulness and risk taking when faced with more challenging tasks. Creativity is encouraged in writing styles and through the use of figurative language.

How are British Values taught through Writing? British values, including those of mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs are embedded in the Writing curriculum. We promote tolerance through different people's ideas, creative responses and understanding of different cultures within Writing. Pupils are encouraged to question and explore what Writing is studied. Writing in Britain is studied through the curriculum. Pupils have the opportunity to work independently and as a team to build resilience and self-belief through tasks, sharing ideas and resources, peer assessment and supporting each other

Writing Intent, Implementation and Impact

Why has the specific content knowledge been selected? Why is it taught in the order that it is?

The National Curriculum gives a broad coverage for Writing. This allows us to be selective as to when the units of work are taught. We have designed the Writing curriculum to ensure it is well-sequenced, has a clear progression and end point. Reading and vocabulary is at the heart of the Writing curriculum. We have made cross curricular links with other aspects of the curriculum such as topic, which run through the writing curriculum to allow children to deepen their knowledge and understanding whilst giving plenty of opportunity for long term memory links.

How are Writing lessons taught at Gaskell Primary School?



Writing is taught in four phases to make most of spoken and written language.

Vocab is taught explicitly with high expectations for knowledge with three new words a week containing cross curricular links

Grammar and spelling also taught separately 3 times a week to encourage deep knowledge

Writing opportunities in all subjects throughout the curriculum

What is the impact?

All children at Gaskell become confident writers by using the tools which are given to them in order to write independently and fluently. Children at Gaskell will love writing and use it as a medium to express themselves, their thoughts, feelings and ideas.

Children will have an innate passion for writing.