



Writing at New Hartley First School

Intent

At New Hartley we believe in providing children with writing opportunities with authentic purposes across a wide range of subjects. Our intent is to develop our pupils into confident and adventurous writers who love writing and take immense pride in the presentation of their written work. New Hartley writers will have the ability to write fluently and engage their readers with high quality vocabulary and well-structured writing.

Implementation

Curriculum Design

Our writing curriculum is entrenched in our love of books. From EYFS to Y4 our writing develops from the reading of high quality, stimulating, challenging and engaging texts that are in line with our core values of aspirations, sustainability and equality and make extensive cross-curricular links. From class novels, picture books, poetry and non-fiction, our carefully selected texts provide the hook which underpins our writing opportunities.

We follow and build upon the national curriculum writing standards to ensure progressive development of skills, knowledge, and understanding. Our English lessons develop pupils' spoken language, reading, writing, spelling, punctuation, grammar and vocabulary skills. In EYFS we have lots of opportunities for early writing throughout all areas of the environment. The children are encouraged to mark make using a variety of media e.g. paint brushes and water, large chalking. We enable the children to give meanings to their marks and we spend time talking about their marks.

Our curriculum places emphasis on both fiction and non-fiction writing, enabling our pupils to explore a wide range of genres and writing styles. Children are given opportunities to use their imaginations and fuel their creativity through planning and writing for a clear purpose and audience.

Vocabulary Development

We recognise the importance of vocabulary development in enhancing pupils' writing abilities. We place a strong emphasis on the explicit teaching of vocabulary to boost attainment in reading and writing but also to build knowledge, experiences and cultural capital in our children. Based on the work of Alex Quigley, *Closing the Vocabulary Gap*, we ensure that our children are taught explicitly Tier 2 and Tier 3 words through all learning opportunities across our curriculum.

Grammar and Punctuation

In line with the requirements of the National Curriculum, our writing curriculum places a strong emphasis on grammar and punctuation. We ensure that pupils are taught the key rules and conventions of grammar and punctuation. Our teachers provide regular opportunities for explicit teaching of grammar and punctuation and provide constructive feedback to develop pupils' understanding and application of grammar rules enabling them to accurately apply these skills in their writing.

Independent Writing – Our Writing Journey

We believe that independent writing fosters creativity and confidence, allowing pupils to apply the skills and knowledge they have acquired. Regular opportunities for independent writing across a wide range of different text types and styles are integrated into our curriculum. Our writing journey begins by looking at specific examples of a genre or text type to allow children to develop an understanding of the features required. Children will then practice specific components and features to develop their skills as they gradually work towards a final written piece. We celebrate our children's writing through classroom display work and sharing their work for a wider audience.

Assessment and Feedback

From EYFS to Y4 we provide regular feedback on the children's written work and offer support and encouragement to edit and improve. We actively involve pupils in self-assessment and peer-assessment activities, especially in KS2, developing their ability to reflect on their writing and engage in constructive conversation about their work.

Our assessment practices are robust and purposeful, providing accurate and meaningful feedback to both pupils and our teachers.

New Hartley Writing Model

This approach is applied to the teaching of specific text types eg explanation texts, newspaper reports, non –chronological reports.



Impact

Children leave New Hartley able to:

- Express their thoughts and ideas fluently and coherently on a wide variety of topics throughout the curriculum.
- Demonstrate a creative imagination which fosters enthusiasm for writing across different texts and genres
- Apply a richly developed vocabulary which enhances word choices to engage their reader.
- Organise and structure their writing appropriately for the text, which includes a variety of sentence structures.
- Demonstrate a sense of pride in their work

Children leave New Hartley with:

- A love of writing and recognition of its significance in informing and entertaining.