

Writing at George Street Primary School

Intent

At George Street, we want our children to confidently communicate their ideas, emotions and knowledge, be proud of their work and believe they are successful authors. All children from foundation stage to year 6 are presented with many opportunities to develop and apply their writing skills across the curriculum. We aim our writing at George Street to be specific and meaningful, and have a purpose, to both engage children and illustrate how their writing skills can be applied to real life contexts. We want our children to understand there are many jobs in the real world, where skilled writing is needed.

Through a text based approach, children will be able to develop an awareness of audience and purpose while increasing their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary. We want our children to understand the rigorous process authors go through to reach the publishing stage. Therefore, we believe that children should refine and edit their writing over time. We aim for our children to develop independence and so be able to identify their own areas for improvement across all their writing, editing their work effectively as part of the writing process. We want all of our pupils to be capable readers, writers, spellers and speakers, who can transfer their English skills to the wider curriculum and who are prepared for the next steps in their education.

Implementation

Writing is a crucial part of our wider curriculum as well as our English curriculum. Lessons are stimulated by high quality age-appropriate texts, which inspire and motivate our children.

At George Street each unit of English work follows a careful sequence where skills are revisited and new skills are developed across a range of contexts. This is part of a spiral curriculum we have developed where children, over a two week block, study a book to develop grammar and punctuation knowledge, explore the writing features and structures of different genres and then plan and write their own pieces. Within lessons, teachers and teaching assistants support children by providing children with scaffolds, writers' toolkits, word banks and modelled writes.

With carefully selected books, children are immersed in rich vocabulary, which is taught and clarified, so they can develop their understanding of words.

We develop writing skills so that our children have the stamina and ability to write at age related expectations therefore, children have the opportunity to write every day. We promote the importance of written work by providing purpose and opportunities for children's writing to be read aloud and listened to by an audience. We develop a range of activities around English to inspire our children, 'take one book' week, author visits, World book day and BBC 500 word challenge in year 6.

Impact:

Children will use a wide range of vocabulary in their writing and by the end of Year six they will be able to write clearly and accurately and adapt their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. We aim to have 80+% of pupils leaving George Street working at age-related expectations.