



The 'Writing' Curriculum at North Nibley C of E Primary: A statement of intent



At North Nibley, it is our intention to support all children in becoming capable, effective and enthusiastic writers. Writing is an essential skill that equips children with the skills needed to express themselves both orally and through written work across the entire curriculum. Fluency in the English language is an essential foundation for success in all subjects.

Our curriculum incorporates the use of Pie Corbett's 'Talk for Writing' approach, which enables our children to imitate the language they need for a particular unit orally, before reading and analysing it, learning from the text's structure and then writing their own version. There is a three-stage pedagogy: 'imitation' (where children learn and internalise texts, to identify transferrable ideas and structures), 'innovation' (where children use these ideas and structures to co-construct new versions with their teachers), and 'invention' (where teachers help children to create original texts independently). We focus all of our English units around an age-appropriate, high-quality text, which inspire ideas, spark imagination and introduce children to new vocabulary. Where possible, these texts are linked to our Topic work to provide opportunities for cross-curricular writing.

Through our Phonics scheme 'Essential Letters and Sounds' (in Reception and Year 1) and SPaG sessions (in Year 2 to Year 6), children learn the essential skills in spelling, punctuation and grammar. At North Nibley, we plan our spelling sessions using the spelling rules, suffixes and prefixes found in the National Curriculum appendices for each year group.

Each writing unit is focused on teaching two new objectives and revising one previously taught objective. Children have various opportunities to 'try it, use it, prove it', whereby skills are modelled, tried out and then developed independently within a piece of writing. Children become confident in planning their own texts through story mapping, boxed up planning grids, bullet points etc, with a diminishing use of scaffolding prompts as they become more independent.

We develop children into critical writers with an understanding of the writing process, including developing the skills of proof-reading, editing and revising to improve the quality and fluidity of their work. From Year 1, children are taught how to edit and improve their writing and this is evident in books through the use of 'purple polishers'. In teaching the precise terminology for all parts of language use, we give pupils a tool to manipulate language confidently, discuss their choices and respond well to writing.

At North Nibley, we endeavour to make the writing curriculum accessible to all children. We have a range of interventions carried out in all classes to support our lower-attaining children. Writing activities are differentiated through 'checklists' to ensure all children are being challenged.

Abi Tyers, Subject Leader, June 2022.