

Sunning Hill Primary School



Writing Policy

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Reviewed by: Governing Body

Our school values – Building a Bright Future Together

At Sunning Hill Primary, we instil **self-belief** and promote **independence** that allows children to become **aspirational** and committed, **life-long learners**. Our journey together provides our children with opportunities to learn and grow and encourages them to be **curious** about the world. Our children are encouraged to take **responsibility** for themselves, show **resilience** and be **proud** of who they are so they flourish within society. All achievements are celebrated to reward success, inspire ambition and nurture self-esteem.

Our Sunning Hill family work together to ensure our children are **happy, kind, charitable** and **respectful**. All children are given equal opportunities to reach their full potential. We provide a supportive, secure environment where children feel safe to take **risks and learn from their mistakes**. These foundations provide a strong base for building a bright future together ensuring **equality** for all.

Curriculum Intent for Writing

Sunning Hill Primary School follows the statutory programme of study and attainment targets for English at KS1 & KS2 and the EYFS Framework. We aim to deliver a high-quality English education that will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas to others. Our curriculum promotes high standards of language and literacy by developing pupil's command of the spoken and written word, whilst promoting their love of literature through widespread reading and writing for enjoyment. Our English curriculum is carefully planned to meet the needs of all pupils, including those who are disadvantaged or with SEND needs.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for writing.
- Appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage.
- Write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.

Curriculum Implementation for Writing

In Nursery 2 and 3 year olds, mark making is encouraged through the Scribble it approach. In Reception, children begin their writing journey through Little Wandle phonics, Drawing Club and also some Pathways to Write units.

Our English curriculum is implemented using the Pathways to Write Programme which follows a progressive mastery approach that is in line with the National Curriculum for English and the EYFS Framework. From Reception to Year 6, units of work are delivered using high quality texts and children are given the opportunity to write for a range of purposes, e.g. to entertain, to inform, to persuade or discuss at an age appropriate level.

During English lessons, children will also be taught age appropriate phonics, grammar and spelling rules, which are reinforced and built upon as they progress through school. Children are encouraged to apply these skills in all their independent writing.

Staff will ensure that the development of writing is closely linked with reading, speaking and listening. Children will be encouraged to enjoy writing in literacy rich environments that will encourage participation in a range of writing activities.

We ensure that the curriculum is taught in line with our aims:

- The English curriculum is delivered as a discrete subject and reinforced throughout the curriculum.
- The statutory programme of study and attainment targets for English at KS1 & KS2 and the EYFS curriculum is followed. This promotes an English curriculum that is progressive and allows children to build upon previous learning.
- Speaking and listening is a core skill that allows children to develop their ability to communicate effectively in writing it is therefore promoted and woven in through the subject. We feel this is particularly pertinent for the children in our school.
- The English curriculum is adapted, through appropriate differentiation to meet the needs of all learners and prepare them for the next stage in their education.
- Vocabulary is explicitly taught and is clearly displayed on working walls, so the children can refer to it to enhance their writing.
- Collaboration is promoted at all levels of school life. In lessons, children regularly have the opportunity to work in groups or pairs.
- Homework promotes independence, choice and wider experiences so that the knowledge and skills acquired in school can be applied to deepen learning.
- Feedback is both written and verbal. The purpose of any feedback given is to move a child forward with their learning. (see Feedback policy)
- Teacher subject knowledge is developed through CPD and coaching. The school has a carefully planned induction programme to support ECTs and new staff.

Curriculum Impact for Writing

Through the clear and aspirational intent, structured and rigorous implementation of the English curriculum, we aim to provide all our children with a broad and balanced depth of knowledge and skills.

The impact of this is measured in the following ways:

- National end of key stage assessments are used to identify strengths and areas for development.
- Two extended pieces of writing are assessed against year group writing expectations each term.
- Whole school writing moderation takes place termly.
- Local authority moderation ensures writing standards are moderated at the end of EYFS, KS1 and KS2.
- Monitoring of the subject through, planning, learning walks, lesson observations, book scrutiny and pupil discussions to measure outcomes in writing in all year groups. Strengths are celebrated and areas for development are acted upon.
- Teacher subject knowledge is reviewed through lesson observations, drop-ins, pupil questionnaires and book monitoring. This information is used to plan staff meetings and external training opportunities.
- Quality first teaching corrects misconceptions within lessons and children are targeted with additional support to diminish differences.

Our school aims to support all families and the wider community. Any queries or concerns regarding individual policies will be considered on an individual basis.