

# Writing Strategy

"Growing good people - doing great things."

## **Rationale**

At Cambrai Primary School, all of our children are provided with plentiful opportunities to develop social and communication skills, imagination, creativity a thirst for knowledge and a love of reading and writing through daily English lessons. English lessons teach children the skills they need to make progress in Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening and GPS (Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling), in addition to Phonics in Early Years and Key Stage 1. Using an engaging, cross-curricular approach our children are immersed in an environment of rich texts, adventurous vocabulary and real-life experiences to enhance learning progress.

#### Intent

Within our broader English curriculum planning, our intent for writing is clear:

- We provide a creative and purposeful writing curriculum which is driven by credible, rich, engaging texts from a range of text types; these act as excellent models for language, cultural broadening and skills development.
- Children become fluent and confident writers, writing for a range of contexts, audiences and purposes in a variety of narrative and non-narrative text types; these build on word-level, sentence-level and text-level skills across progressive sequences of lessons.
- We use a mastery approach to writing in order to ensure that children's knowledge, skills and understanding are secure and transferable across the curriculum, paving the way for success.
- Children have the opportunity to edit and improve and then transform their writing within the text type they are writing.

# **Implementation**

We encourage children to see writing as an imperative life skill that needs to be developed so it can be applied right across the curriculum. In addition to daily writing lessons, which develop word-level, sentence-level and text-level skills, our children also have the opportunity to develop and refine their skills across foundation subjects and cross-curricular projects.

Children write for a range of contexts, audiences and purposes in a variety of narrative and non-narrative text types and through an array of media. This generally begins with a stimulus to promote good oracy via generating discussion and developing ideas, opinions and viewpoints, alongside the analysis of a high quality model text to analyse key features. Through taking these features into account during the planning stage of writing, children practise specific skills to allow them to create their first draft which can be edited and improved before writing a final, published piece. This writing journey is one we celebrate, as each stage presents a further step to success.

Each week children are provided with spellings to learn following the Trust's spelling programme. The spelling programme contains the important content from the national curriculum spelling rules, and words taken from set year group word lists. We have a strong emphasis on *learning the rule* as opposed to 'learning the word' so that children are more able to apply spelling strategies to new and unfamiliar vocabulary.

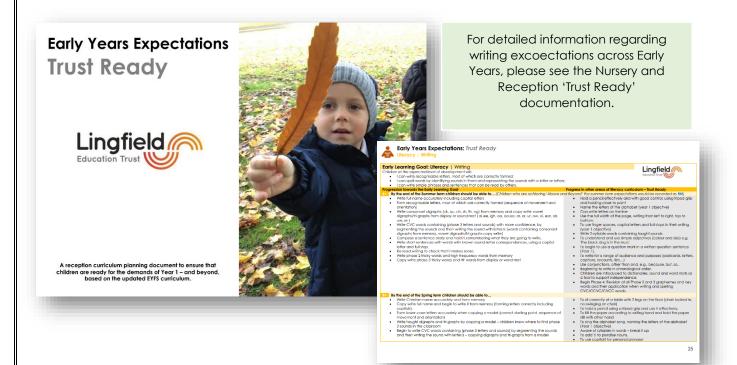
# **Steps to Success in Early Years**

Literacy is embedded across Early Years provision through the characteristics of effective teaching and learning: playing & learning, active learning and creating & thinking creatively. This allows our children to develop a love of Literacy, where they are confident, articulate and increasingly independent, with key aspects of the Literacy offer ensuring children develop accurate letter and number formation and that they listen and take part in 'five a day' language rich experiences (for example stories, nursery rhymes, poems, songs and rhymes).

The Lingfield Education Trust 'Early Years Expectations: Trust Ready' curriculum planning document is a key driver in the planning and delivery of Literacy and Writing opportunities in Early Years. It details key assessment points from children in Nursery 1, to the end of reception. The assessment points extend beyond and wider than the Early Learning Goals. Adults talk to children about the world around them and link high quality texts to real life experiences to develop vocabulary in context. Writing is then taught in terms of transcription (spelling through Phonics; letter formation) and composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech before writing them down).

Children at the expected level of development by the end of Early Years will:

Writing Early Learning Goal	Fine Motor Skills Early Learning Goal			
Write recognisable letters	Hold a pencil effectively in			
which are mostly correctly	preparation for fluent writing			
formed.	– using the tripod grip in			
	almost all cases.			
Spell words by identifying				
sounds within them and	(Use a range of small tools,			
representing the sounds with	including scissors, paint			
a letter(s).	brushes and cutlery.			
AALSI - Sanata	Danis to standard			
Write simple	Begin to show accuracy			
sentences/phrases that can	and care when drawing.)			
be read by others.				



# Steps to Success in Key Stage 1

The writing process will generally follow the sequence as outlined below. Teachers will use their knowledge of the needs of their class to determine how much lesson time is dedicated to each step to ensure that basic skills are secure and contribute to effective composition. The general writing sequence for one piece of writing will take between one to two weeks, to ensure secure understanding and strong application of skills.

## Step 1 – Read and Respond

Through shared reading together, children are immersed in language and explore the structure and sequence of a text.

### Step 2 - Prepare

The task is introduced and discussed with children; ideas, vocabulary and language are discussed in terms of audience and purpose.

# Step 3 – Practise

Children have the opportunity to practise wordlevel, sentence-level and/or GPS skills to be applied within writing composition.

## Step 4 - Plan

Key ideas are planned, where children make decisions in relation to language, vocabulary and sequence/structure.

## Step 5 - Draft

Children rehearse and compose sentences, experimenting with language and applying the skills previously practised.

## Step 6 – Edit and improve (From Year 2)

Children read back their writing and check for sense. Corrections are made and language/vocabulary revised. Children to edit the highlighted sections shown by the teacher.

## **Daily Steps**

#### **Dictation**

Children are given a sentence verbally to record. The sentence will incorporate high frequency words, phonics-linked spellings and an ageappropriate range of punctuation. Dictation sentences will be responsive to the needs of children.

#### Letter Formation / Handwriting

- Y1 Daily Little Wandle letter formation (non-cursive), in addition to twiceweekly 'Happy Handwriting – Collins'
- Y2 Daily Little Wandle letter formation, in addition to twice-weekly 'Happy Handwriting – Collins'

#### **Spelling**

Spelling is taught daily, through Little Wandle Phonics sessions. Key Stage 1 children also follow the Trust's spelling scheme including a Spelling Bee – this is taught explicitly weekly.

Each day in K\$1, children practice writing their weekly spellings daily including a dictated sentence.

## Step 7 - Publish

Once a term, children will create a 'published piece' in their Golden Book.

# Step 8 – 'Pause & Stretch' (From Year 2)

Once a half term children either 'pause' for an opportunity to consolidate their learning (word/sentence level/GPS skills) or are 'stretched' by independently transforming a part or piece of their writing linked to audience and form.

# Steps to Success in Key Stage 2

The writing process will generally follow the sequence as outlined below. Teachers will use their knowledge of the needs of their class to determine how much lesson time is dedicated to each step to ensure that developing skills become secure and contribute to effective composition. The general writing sequence for one piece of writing will take between two to three weeks, to ensure secure understanding and strong application of skills.

# Step 1 – Read and Respond

Exploration of a text allows the opportunity to identify and discuss language, grammar, structure and organisational features of a high quality model.

## Step 2 – Prepare

The task is introduced and discussed with children, with clear identification of CAP (context, audience, purpose). Ideas, information and vocabulary are shared/discussed.

# Step 3 – Practise

Children have the opportunity to practise wordlevel, sentence-level and/or GPS skills to be applied within writing composition. Children revisit and revise their plan.

## Step 4 – Plan

Key ideas are planned, where children make decisions around key ideas, language, vocabulary and sequence/structure continuously linked to CAP.

## Step 5 – Draft

Children use the skills from previous practise sessions to write their text, selecting appropriate grammar, vocabulary and structure/layout linked to CAP.

# Step 6 – Edit and improve

Children evaluate the effectiveness of their writing, making corrections and experimenting with how changes to grammar, vocabulary and structure can enhance the text.

Children to edit the highlighted sections shown by the teacher.

## **Daily Steps**

## **Dictation**

Children are given a sentence verbally to record. The sentence will incorporate high frequency words, year group spellings and an age-appropriate range of punctuation. Dictation sentences will be responsive to the needs of children.

## Handwriting

LKS2: Two explicit lessons per week using 'Happy Handwriting - Collins'

UKS2: Two explicit lessons per week using 'Happy Handwriting – Collins' Ongoing teaching through Writing lessons, plus intervention where required.

## **Spelling**

Spelling is taught weekly, through the whole Trust spelling programme including a Spelling Bee.

Each day in KS2, children practice writing their weekly spellings daily including a dictated sentence.

## Step 7 - Publish

Once a term, children will create a 'published piece' in their Golden Book.

## Step 8 - 'Pause & Stretch'

Once a half term children either 'pause' for an opportunity to consolidate their learning (word/sentence level/GPS skills) or are 'stretched' by independently transforming a part or piece of their writing linked to audience and form.

# **Progression in Text Type**

		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
To entertain	Retell a story	✓	✓	✓			
	Recount	<b>√</b>	✓				
	Character profile		✓	<b>✓</b>			
	Descriptive writing	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>
	Narrative	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>\</b>	<b>&gt;</b>	<b>&gt;</b>	✓
	Simple recount	✓	✓				
	Non-chronological report	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	✓	✓
_	Instructions		✓				
or m	Recount: letter			<b>&gt;</b>			
To inform	Recount: diary			<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		<b>√</b>
5	Recount: newspaper report				<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓
	Recount: historical/biography					✓	✓
	Procedural writing					✓	
<u>o</u>	Poster advert			<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
nac	Advert script				✓		
To persuade	Persuasive letter/leaflet				<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓
10	Persuasive speech					<b>✓</b>	✓
To	Balanced discussion					<b>√</b>	✓
Poetry	Different forms	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>

NB. The text types taught in Year 1 have a predominant focus on transcription as opposed to composition, and therefore the authorial features of these text types will need to be taught more explicitly in Year 2. This particularly applies the Year 1 text types with a faded tick.

# **Planning Writing**

Units of writing are planned using the **Trust Long Term Plan for writing**. Each half term has the range of text types identified to teach, the core driving text (linked to whole school reading spine), suggestions for opportunities to transform and the **key assessment indicators** for each term. An example is below. Pupils are summatively assessed each term against the termly writing assessment indicators, as well as formatively throughout the term as part of quality first teaching practice.

