

## **Writing Key Stage 2**

### **Purpose of Study**

English has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils, therefore, who do not learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently are effectively disenfranchised.

### **Key Aims**

The overarching aim for English in the national curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. The national curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- Acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- 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
- Use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- Are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

## **Programme of Study Year 4**

### **Writing – Transcription**

**Pupils should be taught to:**

- Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them (English Appendix 1)
- Spell further homophones
- Spell words that are often misspelt (English Appendix 1)
- Place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words with irregular plurals [for example, children's]
- Use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary
- Write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.

### **Writing – Handwriting**

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- Use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined
- Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch].

### **Writing – Composition**

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- Plan their writing by:
  - Discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar
  - Discussing and recording ideas
- Draft and write by:
  - Composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures ([English Appendix 2](#))
  - Organising paragraphs around a theme
  - In narratives, creating settings, characters and plot
  - In non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings]
- Evaluate and edit by:
  - Assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements
  - Proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences
- Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
- Read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear.

### **Writing – Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation**

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in [English Appendix 2](#) by:
  - Extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although
  - Using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense

- Choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- Using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause
- Using fronted adverbials
- Learning the grammar for years 3 and 4 in English Appendix 2
  
- Indicate grammatical and other features by:
  - Using commas after fronted adverbials
  - Indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns
  - Using and punctuating direct speech
  
- Use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading.