

Writing Key Stage 1

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 1

Writing - Handwriting

Pupils should be taught to:

- Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- Begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place
- Form capital letters
- Form digits 0-9
- Understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

Writing - Composition

Pupils should be taught to:

- Write sentences by:
 - Saying out loud what they are going to write about
 - Composing a sentence orally before writing it
 - Sequencing sentences to form short narratives
 - Re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense
 - Discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils
 - Read aloud their writing clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher.

Writing – Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

Pupils should be taught to:

- Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in [English Appendix 2](#) by:
 - Leaving spaces between words
 - Joining words and joining clauses using and
 - Beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark
 - Using a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I'
 - Learning the grammar for year 1 in English Appendix 2
- Use the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 in discussing their writing.