Newhall Junior School

Writing

Intent

At Newhall Junior School, we believe that writing is a powerful tool for communication, creativity and self-expression. Our writing curriculum is ambitious, inclusive and designed to develop confident, articulate and independent writers who can write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences.

We aim to:

- Develop fluent, accurate and confident writers who can communicate ideas clearly and effectively.
- Build pupils' vocabulary, grammatical knowledge and understanding of how language is used for effect.
- Enable pupils to write across a range of genres, adapting their language and structure for different audiences and purposes.
- Foster creativity, imagination and a pride in written work.
- Provide rich literary experiences that inspire high-quality writing.
- Ensure all pupils, including those with SEND and disadvantaged pupils, can access, participate in and succeed within the writing curriculum.
- Develop transferable writing skills that can be applied across the wider curriculum.

Our curriculum is built on the understanding that writing is a complex process requiring pupils to draw upon knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure and genre. Through carefully sequenced learning and regular opportunities for retrieval and application, pupils develop secure knowledge that can be retained, transferred and applied independently.

We recognise the importance of language development in improving outcomes for all learners. Through exposure to high-quality texts, ambitious vocabulary and meaningful writing opportunities, pupils develop the confidence and ability to communicate effectively in both education and later life.

Implementation

Writing is taught daily through a carefully sequenced curriculum that develops pupils' knowledge, skills and confidence as writers. Learning is centred around high-quality texts and purposeful writing outcomes, enabling pupils to explore how effective writing is crafted before applying these techniques independently.

Key features of our curriculum include:

- Daily writing lessons focused on a specific genre or purpose for writing.
- High-quality texts that inspire, model and support pupils' writing development.
- Explicit teaching of grammar, punctuation and language choices in line with National Curriculum expectations.
- Regular opportunities to analyse model texts and identify the features of effective writing.
- Explicit vocabulary instruction to broaden language acquisition and improve written outcomes.
- Retrieval practice to secure key knowledge and support long-term retention.
- Adaptive teaching to ensure all pupils can access and succeed within the curriculum.
- Opportunities to write across the wider curriculum and apply skills in meaningful contexts.

Pupils are taken on a writing journey throughout each unit, developing an understanding of purpose, audience and genre before planning, drafting, editing and refining their work. Teachers model the writing process and provide opportunities for shared and guided writing to support pupils in developing confidence and independence.

Writing is closely linked to reading, with carefully selected texts providing meaningful contexts for learning. Through analysing authors' choices and exploring rich language, pupils develop a deeper understanding of how writing works and how it can be used effectively.

Spelling is taught through Spelling Shed, which supports the systematic teaching of spelling rules, patterns, word structures and etymology. Pupils develop an understanding of spelling strategies and are encouraged to apply their spelling knowledge consistently across all areas of the curriculum. Individual online accounts enable pupils to access learning both in school and at home, providing additional opportunities for practice and consolidation.

Assessment is ongoing and informs future learning through discussion, observation, pupil responses and written outcomes. Teachers provide timely verbal and written

feedback to address misconceptions, celebrate success and support pupils in making continuous improvements to their writing.

Impact

The impact of our Writing curriculum is reflected in pupils' confidence, attainment and ability to communicate effectively through the written word. Pupils develop secure knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, spelling and composition, enabling them to write with increasing accuracy, fluency and independence.

Through exposure to high-quality texts and ambitious language, pupils develop enriched cultural capital and a growing understanding of how writing can be used to inform, entertain, persuade and inspire. Their books showcase progression in knowledge, skills and authorial choices, whilst demonstrating increasing confidence across a range of writing genres.

Pupils apply their writing skills successfully across the wider curriculum, making meaningful connections between subjects and adapting their writing for different purposes and audiences. They develop resilience through drafting, editing and improving their work, taking pride in their achievements as writers.

All pupils, including disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND, are supported to make strong progress from their starting points. Pupils develop an increasingly sophisticated vocabulary, strong sentence construction and a secure understanding of grammar and spelling conventions.

By the end of Key Stage 2, pupils leave Newhall Junior School as confident, capable and motivated writers who are well prepared for the demands of secondary education and able to communicate effectively in a wide range of contexts.