



East Ravendale C of E Primary School

Writing

At East Ravendale C of E Primary School, we believe that the ability to communicate our ideas and emotions effectively is an essential skill in the modern world, and writing is a significant part of this.

From EYFS through to year six, our children are provided with a range of opportunities across our curriculum to develop their writing. We endeavour to teach writing by incorporating high quality texts into our literacy learning; this allows us to relate each text type to real life examples and understand how a published piece should look. At East Ravendale, we understand the value of a rich vocabulary and this is something that we endeavour to build through our use of high quality texts, through focused learning opportunities and through modelling it ourselves. By giving our children a rich vocabulary, in turn we aim to give them a voice to share their understanding of God's values in an articulate manner.

We aim to build a love of literacy and the written word by ensuring our children have daily opportunities to write, not only in discrete literacy lessons but also in a variety of other subjects such as the humanities, science and RE. This is ongoing as part of our developing curriculum. As part of this, our teachers have a strong subject knowledge of writing, grammar and punctuation. Our teachers have a clear understanding of cognition and learning and use this to plan exciting and engaging literacy lessons that create well-rounded learners.

We know that our children are creative, imaginative and enthusiastic learners. Our aim is to ensure that all of our children are able to express this creativity, imagination and enthusiasm through the use of written word, to the absolute best of their ability! As one of our school values is Joy, we aim to create students who truly find joy in expressing themselves as inquisitive, life-long learners with desire to do great things!

Implementation

In EYFS, our children access daily Read Write Inc lessons, in which they are able to practice their reading and phonic skills. In addition to this, they also develop the vital skills required for writing at an early age, such as using their phonic knowledge to sound out unfamiliar words, exposure to new and high level vocabulary and activities in which they build sentences. As well as their RWI learning, they also practice letter formation, following the Letterjoin programme. We know that great reading and great writing often go hand-in-hand and because of this, our children are read to every day; adults read a range of fiction and non-fiction to ensure our students hear a breadth of text types.

In KSI, literacy lessons are structured around a shared text, which our children read and learn together. This allows them to become familiar with the text and this acts as a spring board for their writing. Children in KSI will work collaboratively to develop their understanding of a range of written text types, e.g. they will write letters to a main character of the shared text, they will write a set of instructions to help a character create something, they will write descriptions of the characters they have become so familiar with. Because our children have developed such a secure understanding of their shared stories, they need only focus on the specifics of their writing. They continue to use the sentence building strategies that they learned in EYFS, with the added understanding of punctuation and sentence structures that they are taught in KSI.

In addition to their daily literacy lessons, children in KS1 continue to access Read Write Inc lessons to continue the great progress they make in their reading.

Pupils in KS1 access the Letterjoin handwriting programme to allow them to become fluent and cursive writers.

In KS2, our children are given further opportunities to write through daily literacy lessons and will have the same opportunities in all other subjects, such as explaining their reasoning in maths, writing a conclusion to a science experiment and writing a diary entry in the role of a Spartan warrior. This is in progress as part of our ongoing curriculum development. Writing units are planned with a specific focus, e.g. writing to entertain through narrative, description and poetry; writing to inform through biographies, non-chronological reports, letters and instructions and writing to persuade through letter writing, speeches and adverts. We incorporate high-quality texts where appropriate, and teachers write their own examples to ensure the highest standards of vocabulary and punctuation are being demonstrated. Each half term, pupils will study a particular text, linked to their overarching learning focus where appropriate. Our literacy units begin by immersing pupils into the text. We explore character, setting and plot in rich detail. We then move onto looking at a teacher-written example of the genre we will be focusing on, e.g. narrative. Pupils will learn the discrete grammar and punctuation needed to succeed in their writing. Pupils will then move onto planning, drafting, editing and publishing their writing.

In addition to their cross-curricular writing opportunities, students in KS2 are also given opportunities to use their written skills in real life contexts, e.g. completing job application forms for positions within our school tuck shop.

Impact

At East Ravensdale, the impact of our writing teaching will be measured in a variety of ways. We will measure our impact by analysing:

- the % of students achieving GLD in EYFS
- the % of students passing the Phonics Screening Check at the end of Year 1
- the % of students achieving expected standard (EXS) or greater depth (GDS) at the end of KS1
- the % of students achieving the expected standard (EXS) or greater depth (GDS) at the end of KS2.