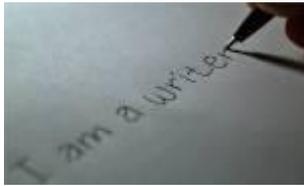


Writing



Pupils are taught writing skills through a series of lesson based on the 'Pathways to Write' scheme, which has been adopted by the school and uses a range of inspirational and challenging picture books which are supported by poetry lessons, art work and music. The teaching of writing occurs in three phases: 'Gateway', 'Pathway' and 'Write away'. During the 'Gateway' phase the children are asked to write an assessment piece based on the new text that is being studied, the aim of which is to assess the application of previously taught skills (from the previous year and previous units). Should these skills need to be reviewed teachers will address this first before moving onto the next stage. At this point the children will move to the 'Pathways' stage where they become further engaged by their key text and learn the related key skills based on their year groups targets. Finally, the lessons will move to a 'write away' stage, this is where the children are expected to apply the key skills taught in the previous session across a range of pieces in some cases. Throughout all of these stages teachers will focus the children's learning on the key skills needed in order to make progress with the genre of writing being studied. This follows a mastery approach, with those working at a greater depth level frequently being asked to complete writing during lessons that is a 'twist' on that modelled.

Throughout a series of writing lessons teachers at Leftwich:

- encourage writing for a variety of purposes and audiences
- teach writing skills alongside a commitment to write in other subject areas
- encourage writing opportunities in Reception in all areas of learning, and the environment within the classroom reflects this
- celebrate good writing by awarding 'WOW' moments, displaying and sharing examples of good work and using the class recognition board
- create an English Wall and Learning Wall in each classroom, which displays prompts for children to access, including current vocabulary and focus skills
- encourage writing skills be used across all subjects
- teach discrete word and sentence level work linked to the current focus
- follow a clear system of marking writing in line with the school's Marking Policy and marking guidelines given to staff for easy reference and displayed in classrooms
- ensure that an enjoyment for writing is created by using high quality texts, examples of which are set out for each class in the school 'Whole school text lists'. This also ensures a suitable level of challenge.

Handwriting



The school's approach to handwriting is applied in all cross-curricular situations. Although handwriting skills are taught discretely, great emphasis is placed throughout the school on the transference of these skills to children's own writing. It is also acknowledged that word-processing packages are used to present written work and that children need to improve presentation using a range of presentation devices, on screen and on paper, in accordance with the National Curriculum. 'Writing... depends on fluent, legible and, eventually, speedy handwriting' (National Curriculum 2016)

Teachers at Leftwich:

- value clear and neat presentation by encouraging children to develop a legible cursive style of handwriting
- make the teaching and practice of handwriting as enjoyable and meaningful as possible
- teach handwriting in accordance with the 'Handwriting and Presentation' strand of the National Curriculum for the appropriate year, allowing for maximum involvement and interaction
- aim to have a short handwriting session of teaching/practice at least weekly
- make links between joined handwriting and more accurate spelling
- use the additional support of the Nelson Handwriting Teacher's book and its Resource and Assessment materials for the appropriate year group, as determined by the needs of the child
- teach correct letter formation alongside the delivery of 'ReadWriteInc'
- aim to have the majority of children joining up writing by the end of Year 2, developing their own style of handwriting as they move through school