

English - Writing

How writing links to the ethos and values of Gainford CE Primary and Preschool

We support all of our pupils from EYFS to Year 6 to be capable readers, writers, spellers and speakers, who can transfer their English skills to other subjects and who are prepared for the next steps in their learning. We nurture them as eloquent and articulate speakers and writers, who use a wide and purposeful vocabulary. We encourage them as readers, who select texts for purpose and pleasure. Books and reading are at the heart of everything we do. Reading materials are built upon quality picture books, stimulating novels and non-fiction texts. These support children on their journey from Foundation Stage to Year 6 from reading to writing.

We also believe that education is about more than just academic achievement; it is about developing young people who can flourish in all areas of their lives developing the intellectual, spiritual, moral and physical attributes, becoming proud and respectful members of our community. Our deeply Christian ethos and values are central to the experiences our children have each day' . 'Together we love learn and flourish' in all that we do underpinned by our Christian values .

A character education for writing

We offer children an excellent education in a safe, calm, creative, inclusive and stimulating environment. Every child is valued as an individual, made in God's image and likeness; we aim to nurture well-rounded, respectful and confident children who will develop skills for life-long learning. We nurture our children on their journey in writing and encourage them to be creative, unique, open-minded and independent individuals, respectful of themselves and of others in our school, our local community and the wider world. Consequently, we encourage our children to write about genres that are relevant and current.

Our vision for writing

At Gainford , English and the teaching of Writing is in the foundation of our curriculum. Our main aim is to ensure every single child becomes primary literate and progresses in the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Staff in our school team feel it is seminal to highlight and be aware of the differing groups of learners and vulnerable children in their class. Once this information is acquired, teachers can plan and teach personalised English lessons which focus on the particular needs of each child. We recognise that each child has their own starting point upon entry to every year group and progress is measured in line with these starting points to ensure every child can celebrate success.

Writing at Gainford will not only be a daily discrete lesson, but is at the cornerstone of the entire curriculum. It is embedded within all our lessons and we will strive for

a high level of English for all. Through using high-quality texts, immersing children in vocabulary rich learning environments and ensuring new curriculum expectations and the progression of skills are met, the children will be exposed to a language heavy, creative and continuous English curriculum which will not only enable them to become primary literate but will also develop a love of reading, creative writing and purposeful speaking and listening. Our vision is for the creativity to be at the helm of our English curriculum and for children to learn new skills in a fun and engaging way.

How do we teach writing at Gainford

As we believe consistency and well-taught English is the bedrock of a valuable education, we ensure that the teaching of writing is purposeful, robust and shows clear progression for all children. In line with the new national curriculum, we ensure that each year group is teaching the explicit grammar, punctuation and spelling objectives required for that age groups.

As well as teaching the objectives, teachers are able to embed the skills throughout the year in cross-curricular writing opportunities and ensure that most children are achieving the objectives at the expected level and that some children can achieve at a greater depth standard. In this sense, assessment of writing is also more fluid as teachers can assess against a set framework.

In order to expose children to a variety of genres which helps to utilise and embed the writing skills, teachers use year-by-year skills documents to help teach their English lessons. These show progress, teach the pertinent year group objectives, apply and consolidate these skills and develop vocabulary. Writing is supported with quality texts ,which expose the children to inference, high-level vocabulary, a range of punctuation and characterisation. Each text is purposefully selected in order to promote a love of reading, engagement and high quality writing from each child.

Measuring impact

The impact on our children is measured by progress, sustained learning and transferable skills. With the implementation of year-by-year writing skills being established and taught thoroughly in both key stages, children are becoming more confident writers and by the time they are in upper Key Stage 2, most genres of writing are familiar to them and the teaching can focus on creativity, writer's craft, sustained writing and manipulation of grammar and punctuation skills.

As all aspects of English are an integral part of the curriculum, cross curricular writing standards should also improve and skills taught in the English lesson are transferred into other subjects; this shows consolidation of skills and a deeper understanding of

how and when to use specific grammar, punctuation and grammar objectives. We hope that as children move on from us to further their education and learning that their creativity, passion for English and high aspirations travel with them and continue to grow and develop as they do.

Caught

All pupils at Gainford have the right to have rich, deep learning experiences that balance all the aspects of writing. Writing is an inspirational subject and is invaluable in today's society in creative thinking and making pupils' learning real in the wider world. A good understanding of writing equips pupils to use creativity to understand and help inspire to change the world. We encourage our pupils to use their own ideas that are interesting and inspiring and that are organised logically and effectively. We encourage the pupils to find a voice for every piece of work that expresses the writer's personality through words. Inspirational writing includes specific and memorable word choices and sentence fluency that is smooth and expressive. We nurture the children to use conventions that are correct and communicative and make their writing consistent and easy to read. Our writing is all about having the necessary tools to make choices - to then make the right respectful choices in their futures and find their place in the world in all its fullness.

Taught

An integral part of Writing is our Core Christian Values allowing each pupil to explore their character, ideals and values. Encouraging pupils to be ***courageous*** helps them to be ambitious and to use imagination through a combination of intellectual challenge, high expectations and mutual trust between teacher and learner - inviting the learner to join the teacher on a journey of discovery and communicate a sense of personal joy in learning. By inquisitiveness and asking probing, deep and thoughtful questions we provide intellectual challenge. ***Supporting and having a caring approach*** allows the highest expectations in relation to learners' ability to engage with the subject content, correcting misconceptions with rigour but keeping the learning fun. Lastly, fostering ***respectfulness*** is very important when exploring the world around them and when working with their peers and in ensuring each pupil feels secure.

Sought

Writing evidence will be found in a variety of places including:

Pupil Books(core/ foundation / cross curricular)

Class 'Floor' books

Displays