Curriculum Expectations

Writing



Subject Leader:

Joni Potter

Curriculum Coverage

At Christ Church we recognise that writing is an essential life skill whilst also being integral to all areas of our curriculum. Writing enables children to communicate with themselves and others, whilst allowing them to express and convey their knowledge, thoughts and ideas. We ensure writing opportunities are varied, wide-ranging and stimulating. High-quality texts, images and shared experiences are used as inspiration for writing. We carefully plan for cross-curricular writing opportunities within our 'Big Question' curriculum to ensure our children have experience of writing for a variety of purposes and audiences.

How often?

KS1: 1 piece of extended writing a week

KS2: 3 pieces of extended writing across two weeks

By whom?

Class Teacher and Teaching Assistants

Whole School Competitions and Challenges

Writer of the Week: Each week, a child from each year group is celebrated by having their writing displayed in the school corridors and shared with parents/carers online.

Author Hour: Once a half term, children chose a genre and write about a topic of their choosing. A winning author from each year group is published in the 'Author Hour magazine.'

What does a typical lesson look like?

At Christ Church, we approach writing as a cyclical process of planning, writing, editing and revising. We provide experiences and environments where the children can acquire a positive attitude to writing. We develop and sustain writing skills by providing opportunities for children to write for a range of purposes and audiences. We use high quality texts to provide text-based writing opportunities and strengthen the link between reading and writing. A variety of scaffolding is put in place by the teacher which ensures that all children's learning needs are met. At Christ Church, we continually model writing skills through shared writing, teaching children how to compose, amend and revise their writing. We also provide high quality, teacher-written model texts to inspire the children. We teach **grammar and punctuation** in the context of children's own writing, as well as through discrete lessons. **Spelling** is taught in line with the National Curriculum expectations. It is taught weekly within dedicated sessions each week and a weekly spelling list is taken home. Spelling is also addressed through the marking of

children's extended writing and in non-core lessons. Discrete **handwriting** sessions and a high expectation for all, encouraging children at Christ Church to develop fluent lines of correctly oriented letters from an early age. The Letter-Join programme is used across school.

Which resources are used?

Planning is drawn from the National Curriculum and year group curriculum folders.

Phonics word mats are used to support spelling throughout school.

Letter-Join used to support the teaching of handwriting. High quality texts are chosen to provide text-based opportunities.

Display expectations

All classrooms have a dedicated writing area. English displays show current learning linked to the writing process and may include key vocabulary, planning, modelling and editing. Key year group grammatical terms, conjunctions and sentence types will be seen to support writing.

How is it monitored?

The subject leader monitors weekly planning and carries out book reviews throughout the year; discussions with class teachers and pupil voice.

How is it assessed?

Both formal and informal assessments are used to inform teaching and learning in a continuous cycle of planning, teaching, assessment and reflection. English Practice Tasks are used after extended writing and writing assessments are carried out each half term to assess progress against the writing skills for each year group.