



Developing Creative and Engaging Writers at Acresfield

Year 2

Our Approach to Writing

This booklet is designed to give parents an overview of expectations in Year 2 linked to the English writing curriculum.

It outlines the following:
Curriculum expectations in spelling, handwriting, composition and grammar for children in Year 2
Approaches to learning used by staff at Acresfield
Ways you can support your child at home

Spelling

Children should learn to spell by:

- segmenting spoken words into phonemes (sounds) and representing these by graphemes (letters), spelling many words correctly
- learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known e.g. **st**ay, **rai**n and **the**y and learn some words with each spelling
- learn common homophones e.g. there, their and they're
- learning to spell more words with contracted forms e.g. did not becomes didn't
- learning the possessive apostrophe for e.g. the girl's book
- add suffixes to spell longer words, including -ment, -ness, -ful, -less, -ly
- when attempting unknown words, children's attempts should be phonetically plausible e.g. incredible could be spelt incredibul

Handwriting

Children should be able to:

- form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another
- start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters
- write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.
- children should have the opportunity to practise correct letter formation regularly



Composition (Making our writing exciting for the reader)

Children should be able to:

- write stories about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional)
- write about real events e.g. school trips
- write poetry
- write for different purposes e.g. a non-chronological report to inform people about a place or creature

Children should consider what they are going to write before beginning by:

- planning through drawing story maps, making notes or saying out loud what they are going to write about
- writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary
- rehearsing what they want to say, sentence by sentence

Children should edit their own writing by:

- evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupils
- re-reading to check that their writing makes sense
- proof-reading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation
- read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear.

Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

Children should be able to:

- Learn how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly; including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms e.g. won't and the possessive (singular) e.g. the girl's hair
- Use sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command
- Use expanded noun phrases to describe and specify e.g. the blue butterfly
- Use the present and past tenses correctly and consistently
- Use subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co-ordination (using or, and, or but)

How Can I Help My Child?

Build writing into everyday life
Support the strategies used in school

In Year 2, the children will engage in writing everyday. They have spelling sessions daily and the children are tested on the spellings at the end of the week. Through the year, children will engage in many different types of writing from stories to information leaflets.

Children will be taught the correct letter formation and they will be introduced to the correct joins for cursive writing.

Parents can look for ways to reinforce writing in everyday situations. This could include shopping lists, letter writing and diaries.

Parents can support writing by engaging in lots of talk and story telling.

Writing should be enjoyable for both you and your child. Write a little, often and make the time special and fun. Please feel free to speak to the class teacher for any further advice.

At the end of the year, we will be aiming for the children to be enjoying their writing, writing in a variety of genres and presenting their work clearly for the reader to enjoy, ready to move into Year 3.

