



Kidmore End CE Primary School

English Curriculum

Vision

We recognise the important role of writing throughout each child's every day and future life. Our aim is to develop pupils' transcriptional writing skills as well as their knowledge and understanding of writing for different audiences and purposes. Pupils will be given opportunities to interrelate the requirements of English within a broad and balanced curriculum, with opportunities to consolidate and reinforce taught literacy skills.

Our aim is to teach children to become confident and fluent writers who have a passion to write about things that excite and inspire them.

Intent

At Kidmore End CE Primary, we believe that the English curriculum should develop the children's love of reading, writing and discussion. We have chosen to adopt *The Literacy Tree* scheme of work to support and guide our teaching of writing.

The Literacy Tree is 'a complete approach to the teaching of Primary English that can be used by teachers to deliver a book-based approach to the teaching of English'. The Literacy Tree 'provide book-based planning sequences (writing roots) which embed complete curriculum coverage and engage children to write with a clear audience and purpose. The 'teach through a text' pedagogy is the backbone to each sequence'.

The 'Teach through Text' approach from the Literacy Tree includes:

- Thematic links – Links are made through themes within significant literature
- Discovery point – Dramatic conventions support immersion and create a hook with a book
- Literary Language – Literary Language is explicitly taught and applied in writing
- Embedded Grammar – Explicit grammar skills for writing taught in context to be applied purposefully
- Vocabulary – Vocabulary is explicitly taught and linked to
- Purpose and audience – Distinct shorter and longer writing opportunities rather than genre led

At Kidmore End, we use the *Nelson handwriting scheme* as a guide to teach handwriting from Year 1 upwards. Letter formation and handwriting is also taught through the '*Rocket Phonics*' programme from Early Years Foundation Stage. As a school we have adopted Literacy Tree Spelling Seeds to support our teaching of spelling.



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'Be courageous; Be strong; Do everything in love.' (1 Corinthians 16: 13-14)

Headteacher: Miss Claire Spankie



Implementation

In our **Reception class** (Cherry), children have daily *Rocket Phonics* sessions which begin with writing sounds and develops onto blending sounds to build words. Children also have opportunities to develop their communication, language and literacy skills on a daily basis in both adult led and child-initiated activities. Opportunities for writing are well designed within the provision to encourage all children to enjoy writing and develop the necessary physical skills to be able to write efficiently later in life.

In **Key stage 1**, literacy lessons have an emphasis on embedding well-honed transcriptional skills (handwriting and spelling). A range of strategies are used to develop children's understanding of structure, vocabulary and grammar, through use of the Literacy Tree text based approach, as well as through the Rocket Phonics Scheme.

In **Key Stage 2**, Literacy Lessons focus on developing children's writing using a range of strategies. Children develop their transcriptional skills further, ensuring that they become automatic. A range of strategies are used to develop children's understanding of structure, vocabulary and grammar.

Formative assessment is threaded throughout lessons and units of work; and appropriate revisions to planning are made by skilled class teachers to ensure all lessons are tailored to best meet the needs of their children. See marking and feedback policy for more information.

Impact

Children will leave our school having gained exposure to a wide variety of high-quality texts. They would have developed the transcriptional skills they require to confidently write in a range of genres for different audiences and purposes. Children will be able to apply their writing skills to become independent, resilient and creative writers.

As a result of our Writing teaching at Oxford Road Community school you will see:

- Children who demonstrate fluency in their writing.
- High quality writing which links to audience and purpose.
- Children who can write in a variety of styles and from a variety of points of view.
- Engaged children who are all supported and challenged.
- Confident children who can talk about their learning and apply this independently.
- Children who can apply their writing to a range of situations successfully.
- Learning that is tracked and monitored to ensure all children make good or better progress.