



Writing at Bishop's CE Primary Academy

Subject Leader: Mrs Toni Glennon

'Learning to live life in all its fullness in our safe and happy community.'

We know our children well and keep them; **SAFE, HAPPY & LEARNING** every day. Our school is a **family** and we share **six Core values**.



To have a culture of respect, where friendships are important and we forgive to grow together. We have courage to aim high, we persevere to achieve and serve all on our community's journey. As shepherd's we include everyone in our safe and happy school to live life in all its fullness.

Jesus was God's shepherd on earth and his flock was not just for his followers but was open and included anyone - open to all. At Bishop's CE Academy our community is diverse and is our flock, we serve that flock as its shepherd to ensure everyone is able to learn and achieve by being safe and happy.

Biblical Reference: John 10: 1-21

Intent

"Reading and writing float on a sea of talk" (Britton, 1970)

At The Bishop's Primary Academy, we recognise that writing, reading, listening and speaking are interdependent. We believe that writing comes from the heart, body, head and soul and that it contains all the possibilities of language, intellectual, emotional, individual and social. It is our belief that writing is an entitlement, a powerful tool that empowers children. Writing provides children the opportunity to free their thoughts and ideas and to release their emotions. It enables children to entertain, to provoke, to organise their life and to write what matters to them. We recognise that children need to experience writing so that they may make it their own.

We understand that children extend vocabulary and their capacity to use language in increasingly complex ways - most successfully within contexts that emphasise meaning and which connect with the individual child. For this reason, we use high quality texts to promote classroom talk rooted in dialogic teaching. Through discussion of ideas, questioning, and the negotiation of meaning, children will grow as users of language. They will grow in confidence as writers who seek to express ideas, explore imaginatively and clarify their own understanding. Children will be able to share ideas with their peers and become active participants in their own development and as critical thinkers. It is through this approach that we believe all children including those with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities, and where English is an additional language, will thrive and see themselves as participants of a community of learners.



Our thoughtfully selected texts will value the children's cultural and social backgrounds and introduce them to cultural and social contexts beyond those they are familiar with. We will make links to other subjects and provide meaningful contexts and purposes for writing that may take them beyond their everyday experiences.

In exploring human experience, through storytelling and poetry; through the use of stillness and imagination in drama the teachers at Bishops will encourage children to develop an inner awareness. We will provide a learning environment where everyone feels safe and confident to play with words, and enjoy and explore how language can serve a purpose and provide a voice. We will provide an environment that allows children to express their feelings and emotions through verbal and written communication.

We will provide an environment that acknowledges that language is complex and can be difficult and that equally celebrates the child's own language as the foundation for growth. As teachers, we will take on the responsibility for providing children with good solid feedback. We will learn together what we understand by this and how we can strengthen the ways in which we do so.

Our aim is to work towards all children understanding that words influence feelings and can develop thought. Our learning environment will invite everyone to the written word and feel confident to put pen to paper.

Implementation

Throughout KS1 children follow the RWI programme. Children are targeted to complete the programme by the end of the autumn term in year 2 and then engage with our full English / Literacy curriculum. From this point, our English literacy curriculum is rooted in high quality texts that have been carefully chosen to support learning across the wider curriculum.

As staff, we have agreed a set of principles for teaching writing;

- Teachers will act on the needs and interests of the children in their care.
- Learning will be embedded within a dialogic approach to ensure inclusion of all children, including those children with SEND and who have English as an additional language.
- Children will be exposed to high-quality texts.
- Every lesson will be language-rich with a focus on developing the children's oracy skills.
- Every day counts towards the bigger picture of progress.
- Creative teaching approaches will be used to foster a whole school love of reading and writing.
- Feedback will be given to develop learning in the most appropriate form.

In order to facilitate this, teachers:

- Will use a vast range of enriching high quality texts in line with Power of Reading
- Will use the Power of Reading teaching sequences to improve and develop the teaching and learning of language, vocabulary, reading and writing.
- Will use the Power of Reading teaching sequences to immerse the children into a variety of learning opportunities/activities.
- Will draw on resources that they feel are appropriate to enhance learning
- Consider progression over a year and across year groups and key stages
- Are supported in developing subject knowledge
- Are given feedback that develops learning



Impact

Our children will be inspired to write using a variety of language devices that are appropriate for their audience and purpose of writing.

- Bishop's principles for writing will be embedded across the school.
- Sequences of learning will enable all pupils, including children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and where English is an additional language, to gain sufficient knowledge and skills for future learning.
- All children will enjoy and feel confident to write
- All children will have agency when writing
- All children will be confident to articulate both orally and in written form their successes and struggles
- Children will have the confidence and knowledge to explain to others what they are learning and why
- Writing outcomes improve in all Key Stages