

# Being a Writer at Sacred Heart

## Our Vision:

At Sacred Heart R.C. Nursery and Primary School it is our intent to provide pupils with a high-quality education in English that will teach pupils to speak, read and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others effectively.

## What do we do?

- From the earliest stage in school we teach children about sounds and letters, and later, the morphology and orthography of words to enable them to write their ideas fluently.
- We teach our children compose their writing effectively through forming, articulating and communicating ideas, and organising them coherently for a reader.
- We ensure our children write for a purpose and audience and plan our writing within the context of our curriculum themes.
- We teach our children to express and exchange their ideas by orally rehearsing using Standard English, then writing to entertain, inform, persuade and discuss.
- We provide opportunities for children to develop an increasingly wide knowledge of grammar and vocabulary and use this in their own writing.
- We encourage pupils to see themselves as authors who are able to plan, revise and evaluate their writing.
- We teach handwriting sessions both discreetly and through phonic and spelling lessons. We intend for pupils to leave our school using fluent, legible and speedy handwriting.
- Children will identify our Gospel values, in characters and themes from the literature they experience.
- All children, regardless of background or ability, will learn to communicate their ideas and emotions through writing.



## How will we know?

### By the end of Year Six, we intend for pupils:

- To write fluently, legibly and speedily using a pen
- To adapt their writing style for a range of purposes, audiences and contexts
- To organise their writing using structural features
- To use a wide and varied vocabulary
- To spell the Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6 words correctly
- To have a good understanding of grammatical features and to use these effectively and purposely in their writing.
- To enjoy showcasing their writing, spelling and grammatical knowledge and skills
- To be confident to take risks in their writing
- To be enthusiastic about writing!

## How do we it?

- Children in Reception and Year One quickly learn basic transcription in writing through Read, Write, Inc. phonics: a systematic and rigorous phonics programme. From Y2 to Y6, the children's understanding of the morphology and orthography of words continues to develop through the RWI spelling programme and grammar instruction, embedded within the daily English lessons.
- Through the RWI phonics programme, children learn to orally rehearse and then hold a sentence in their heads before using their knowledge of sounds to write it down.
- Writing is taught through a Talk for Writing approach where teachers provide children with quality model texts throughout the year, containing the writing features and spellings expected of their year group. Children learn to imitate, innovate, independently create and then invent their own texts based on the model texts. In doing so, they are taught to entertain, inform, persuade and discuss through writing.
- We develop children's vocabulary through the shared reading of texts beyond their reading capabilities and through our booklet of tier two vocabulary based on the AWL.
- Developing their own reading skills quickly through RWI phonics and the Accelerated Reader programme allows children to further develop their language, knowledge of grammar and text structure and vocabulary for writing.
- Throughout the school, we teach children the correct grammatical terms and embed these into the context of our writing lessons.
- School staff model the use of Standard English and fluent, legible writing in all lessons.
- Using the Letterjoin handwriting programme, we develop fluent, legible and speedy writing.