

## **Writing intent:**

At Whitchurch C E Primary School, we instil throughout our curriculum the importance of writing, not only as a means of expression and vital method of communication, but as an essential life skill that is invaluable to our children. We endeavour to provide all children with the key skills to enable them to write proficiently and to take pride in themselves as writers.

Our writing curriculum is built around the use of purposefully selected texts and stories that intend to inspire children and to stimulate writing experiences. The texts we choose aim to guide children in appreciating our 'rich and varied literacy heritage' (National Curriculum 2014) and these texts and stories will expose children to different genres, new language and styles of writing, which in turn will model the type of writing they will aspire to achieve. The variety of texts and writing units we plan cover a range of topics which increase not only writing development, but also emotional and social development through exposure and discussion on matters such as empathy, relationships, history and awareness of the world.

At Whitchurch C E our aspirations are high and we believe every child is a writer and our role is to help them believe that too. Our success is when we hear and see children enjoy writing and making their own choices as a writer, using the skills we have provided as a foundation for their ideas. Our consistently high expectations ensure that all children make progress and achieve the best of their ability, as well as value the importance of writing. Through our thoughtfully planned curriculum, we aim to challenge all pupils and strengthen their knowledge, building on prior learning and seeking to introduce more complex ideas and stories as the children progress.

As well as aspiring to high standards, we want children to enjoy writing. Our wide range of topics and writing experiences, provide all children, no matter their interest or enthusiasms, the opportunity to enjoy writing and gain pleasure from their successes.

At Whitchurch C E Primary School we understand that writing starts by being able to communicate verbally first. The development of the Writer's Voice is so important to ensure that writing is well planned, meaningful and sets the right tone, appropriate for our audience. We start teaching children through oral retelling of traditional tales and rhymes before committing anything to paper.

Teacher's planning and subject leader monitoring ensures the coverage and progressions of the full writing curriculum within *The National Curriculum English programmes of Study and The Early Years and Foundation Stage*. Our writing units and stimuli are accessible to all pupils, regardless of ability, gender, class, disability or ethnicity and aim to provoke interest in even the more reluctant writers. Planning is adapted and the appropriate support is in place to enable the success and challenge of all pupils and to ensure they are reaching their full potential.

Within our curriculum, we provide children with a wide range of writing opportunities and ensure the children feel a real purpose for their writing. We plan writing opportunities for many different purposes such as: to inform, to explain, to persuade and by doing so we teach children to communicate efficiently and effectively for many different intents and audiences. It is understood that in order to write creatively, children need be proficient and fluent in secretarial skills such as spelling, handwriting and grammar. These aspects of writing are taught within the curriculum and sufficient time is given to practise these skills until they are automatic, thus lessening the cognitive load when writing for a purpose.

At Whitchurch C E Primary School we value the importance of writing on the pupil's future. With this in mind, our planning in the wider curriculum provides further opportunities for children to develop and practise their writing skills which they will use throughout their lifetime.