

Subject on a page:

English

At Southbroom St James Academy we believe English is an essential part of the curriculum: a subject that not only stands alone, but one that should be an integral part of all learning.



Intent - we aim to...



Deliver an engaging & exciting curriculum that helps develop a love of writing & inspires children to want to write.

Encourage children to be imaginative, and to bring this to their writing.

Provide children with essential skills in grammar, spelling, punctuation and composition that will be life-long.

Support children to express their thoughts & ideas clearly & creatively through written word.

Develop children into writers with an understanding of the writing process, including proof-reading & editing to enhance their work.

Support children to be articulate & confident communicators who express themselves and enhance their learning when engaging in discussions.

Create a culture where children love to read and take pride in their writing.



Implementation - how do we achieve our aims?

Consistent & systematic approach

In KS2, an adapted **'Talk for Writing'** approach is used with scaffolded and supported burst writing forming part of lessons prior to independent writing. In Years 5 & 6, teachers continue to model writing & children become more independent when planning and generating ideas for writing. High quality modelling forms part of writing lessons.

High quality texts

Children have access to high quality texts and visual stimuli which spark imagination and inspire ideas for writing. Texts are also used to explore layout and language features of specific genres.

Strong grammar teaching

Children are taught to use precise grammatical terminology to discuss & learn from the works of notable authors & to explain their own choices. Grammar is taught in context, with demonstrations of different grammar techniques. Stand-alone grammar lessons are taught if required, but particularly in Spring terms in Y6 in preparation for SATS.

A clear writing process

Lessons are clearly structured to allow children to develop essential knowledge and skills. Effective composition involves forming, articulating and communicating ideas and then organising them coherently for a reader. This requires clarity; awareness of the audience, purpose and context and an increasingly wide knowledge of vocabulary, spelling and grammar. In KS2, teachers guide children through a clear writing process & children have the opportunity to generate ideas, plan draft, edit and publish their writing.

Writing for a range of purposes

Children in KS2 enhance their understanding of a writer's craft and see themselves as authors. Writing purposes (see below) are repeated across the key stage to solidify understanding of text types and to enhance skills in grammar, sentence construction and punctuation.

Entertain



Perform



Inform



Discuss



Describe



Instruct



Persuade



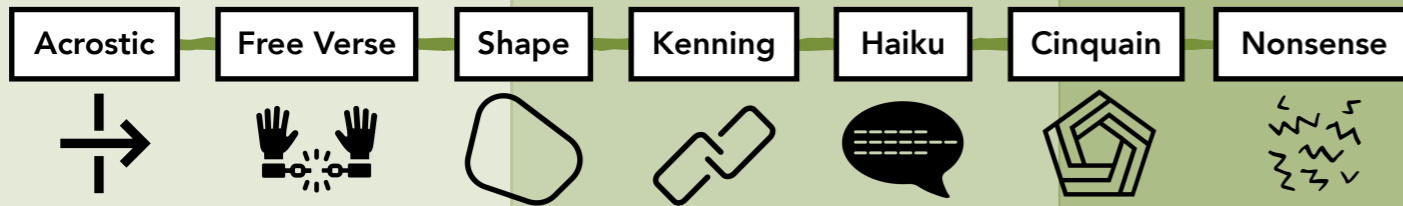
Explain



Implementation - [continued]

Poetry exploration

Children explore a range of poetry in KS2, specific poetry types are taught across the key stage. Most types are repeated so children can solidify their understanding of poetry techniques; enhance their skills at crafting effective poems; and practise performing poetry.



Strong vocabulary development

In KS2, children are encouraged to draw upon what they read when writing to 'magpie' vocabulary from shared texts. All classes have word of the week walls to use for collecting & exploring vocabulary & children make use of these in lessons. Children also independently access dictionaries, thesauruses & word mats.

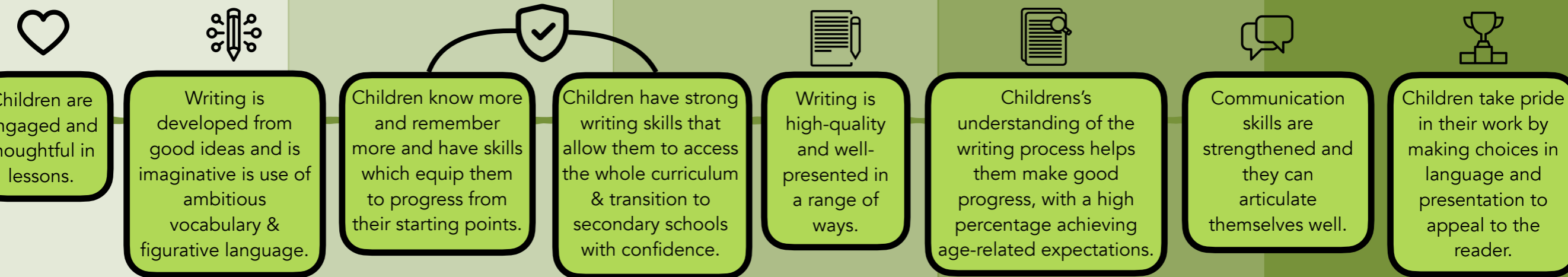


Quality editing & publishing

In KS2, post-writing, children are encouraged to proof-read & edit their work using editing stations (see below). Teachers make it clear that writing has an audience and that the publishing of writing is an important aspect of the writing process. The publishing of writing is creative, including the use of Art and double page spreads to appeal to the reader and suit different writing purposes.

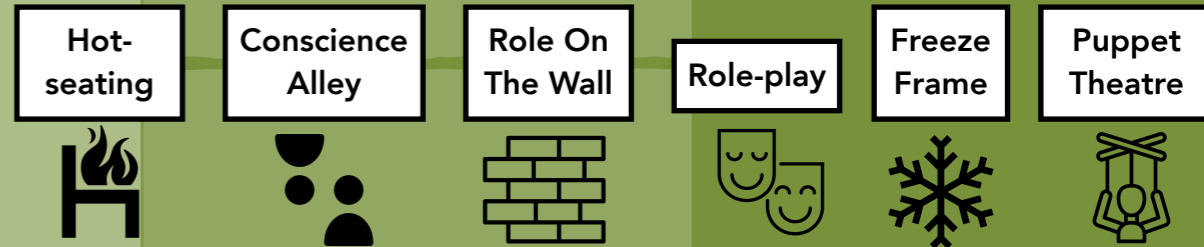


Impact - how will we know we achieved our aims?



Strong oracy & drama development

In KS2, drama techniques (see below) are explored and repeated to enhance children's spoken language, presentation skills and to use as stimuli pre or post-writing. In addition, there are opportunities across the curriculum for children to enhance their spoken language, through exploring tier 2 vocabulary in Book Talk sessions (see Reading Intent, Implementation & Impact); carrying out formal presentations; taking part in class performances; and engaging in debates.



Rigorous & consistent spelling

In KS2, spelling is taught and tested weekly. **The Spelling Shed** is used to teach spelling and **Spellzone** is implemented to provide intervention and additional support. The spelling curriculum includes opportunities to revise common KS1 patterns; and spelling patterns are repeated to reinforce skills.



Progression to cursive script

In KS2, **Letterjoin** is used to teach handwriting weekly throughout Year 3 to ensure the majority of children are writing using cursive script. From Year 4, handwriting is reinforced through modelling, but handwriting lessons can be taught if cohorts need them.

