English Curriculum: Writing Progression Map

COMPOSITION

Reception

Stages of Emergent writing:

Drawing and Imitative Writing – the child writes a message with scribbling that imitate 'grown-up' writing

Copying words

Drawing and strings of letters

Early phonetic writing

Phonetic writing

Conventional/some phonetic writing

- Develop listening and speaking skills in a range of contexts
- Aware that writing communicates meaning
- Give meaning to marks they make (pen disco/squiggle whilst you wiggle)
- Understand that thoughts can be written down
- Write their name copying it from a name card or try to write it from memory
- Copies adult writing behaviour e.g. writing on a whiteboard, writing messages
- Makes make marks and drawings using increasing control (pen disco/squiggle whilst you wiggle)
- Know there is a sound/symbol relationship
- Use some recognisable letters and own symbols
- Write letters and strings, sometimes in clusters like words
- Use appropriate letters for initial sounds/CVC words
- Build words using known letter sounds in writing
- Continue to build on knowledge of letter sounds to build words in writing within play
- Use familiar words in their writing
- Write short sentences with words with known letter-sound correspondences



- I can use talk to link ideas, clarify thinking and feelings
- I understand that thoughts and stories can be written down
- I can orally compose a sentence and hold it in memory before attempting to write it
- I can orally compose a simple sentence/caption and hold it in memory before attempting to write it
- I recognise that after a word there is a space
- I can use talk to organise describe events and experiences
- I can begin to write a simple caption/sentence with support (discuss features of a sentence capital letter/finger spaces/full stop)
- I can write a simple sentence with a full stop
- I can write different text forms for different purposes (e.g., lists, stories, instructions) within play
- My simple phrases and sentences can be read by others

Year 1

- I say a sentence out loud before a write it down (hold a sentence)
- I can use capital letters and full stops
- I can use spaces in between my words
- I plan my writing by saying what I am going to write about (build a sentence)
- I read my own writing aloud so it can be heard by others and check for sense
- I sequence sentences to form short narratives (beginning/middle/end sentences link and build on from each other)
- I use sequence sentences in chronological order to recount an event/experience (basic adverbials for when First, Then, Next, After that)

- I develop stamina for writing by writing for different purposes (real and fictional/own and other's experiences including simple narrative, poems and recounts)
- I plan and discuss the content of my own writing (jotting down ideas, planning the structure, oral rehearsal of what they want to say, sentence by sentence)
- I evaluate my writing independently, with peers and with my teacher by making simple additions and corrections (re-reading to check for sense; verbs used correctly)
- I write, from memory, simple dictated sentences.
- I proof-read to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation (will spot most of their own spelling and errors quickly)

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• I make changes, sometimes independently and sometimes in discussion with an adult and impact of my writing

Year 3

- I write a non-narrative using organisational devices such as headings and sub-headings
- In narrative writing, I develop resolutions and endings
- I make improvements by proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency (the accurate use of pronouns in sentences/tenses)
- I write from memory simple dictated sentences that include words and punctuation taught
- I look at and discuss different models of writing taking account of purpose and audience
- I plan my writing by discussing and recording ideas (timeline, flowchart, spider diagram, jottings)
- I write a narrative with a clear structure, setting, characters and plot
- I suggest improvement to my writing through assessing the writing with peers and through self-assessment
- I identify structure, grammatical features and use of vocabulary for effect in texts
- I can compose sentences using a wider range of structures linked to the grammar objectives (e.g. tenses including present perfect/subordinate clauses/co-ordinating conjunctions)
- I begin to organise paragraphs around a theme (supported by planning then moving to independence)

Year 4

- I write from memory simple dictated sentences that include words and punctuation taught
- My narrative writing is organised into clear sequence with more than a basic beginning, middle and end
- I write with a clear structure, setting, characters and plot
- I include key vocabulary and grammar choices that link to the style of writing. (e.g. scientific words/historical words/words that fit with the context, e.g. science fiction)
- I begin to open paragraphs with topic sentences and organise them around a theme (boxing up method independently; chunking their writing into paragraphs and how to demarcate them)
- My endings are developed and close the narrative appropriately relating to the beginning or a change in a character

- My writing shows that I aim for a range of audiences and the purpose of my writing is to inform, entertain or persuade
- I organise writing into paragraphs to show different information or events
- Paragraphs can be extended or developed main point, topic, event, idea with an explanation or additional detail

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- I link ideas within paragraphs (connecting adverbs and adverbials for time (when); place (where); how (as/with))
- I develop characters through action, description and dialogue
- Description of action through well-chosen adjectives, verbs and adverbs
- I add well-chosen detail to interest the reader (expanded noun phrases)
- My settings are used to not only create atmosphere, but also to indicate a change
- Models from my reading are often used or integrated into my writing
- I manage shifts in time and place effectively and guide the reader through my text

Year 6

- I use a thesaurus to develop word understanding and build a bank of antonyms and synonyms
- I use paragraphs correctly so that each one has a clear topic, and has a signal of change in time, place or event
- I adapt the grammar and vocabulary used in my writing to suit the audience and purpose
- I create atmosphere and describe settings I use antonyms and synonyms to enhance the description
- I describe and integrate dialogue to convey character and advance the action
- I add detail to my writing by using expanded noun phrases to add precision, detail and qualification
- My writing is evaluated as a matter of course and proof reading ensures high levels of accuracy

PUNCTUATION

Reception

- I am beginning to leave finger spaces between words
- I can begin to form some capital letters
- I know that the start of a sentence has a capital letter
- I know that the end of a sentence has a full stop

- I leave finger spaces between words
- I use a capital letter for the start of a sentence
- I begin to use other punctuation such as exclamation and question marks
- I use a full stop accurately

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• I use capital letters for the names of people, places, the days of the week and the personal pronoun 'I'

Year 2

- I use full stops and capital letter correctly across my writing
- I use exclamation and question marks accurately to demarcate sentences
- I use capital letters for the personal pronoun 'I' and for proper nouns
- I being to use commas to separate items in a list
- I sometimes use apostrophes for singular possession

Year 3

- I begin to use inverted commas for some direct speech punctuation
- I use apostrophes for possession with increasing accuracy including plural possession
- Commas are used to mark clauses and phrases

Year 4

- All my sentences are correctly demarcated
- I use the apostrophe for omission and possession
- I secure the use of punctuation in direct speech including a comma after the reporting clause
- I always use commas for fronted adverbials

Year 5

- I use commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing
- I use colons to introduce a list
- I use inverted commas and other punctuation to accurately indicate direct speech
- I use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis

- I can use commas correctly to mark phrases and clauses for clarity
- I correctly use a range of punctuation across a range of writing: colons to start lists, semi-colons to separate items in lists and hyphens to emphasise ideas/use of semi-colon/colon to mark clauses
- I can use punctuation for parenthesis, mostly correctly brackets/commas/hyphens



GRAMMAR

Reception

- I can orally compose a simple sentence/caption
- I can hold it in memory before attempting to write it

Year 1

- I use the personal pronoun 'I'
- I use 'and' to join ideas within a sentence
- I may attempt to use other conjunctions
- I make sure that the word choices are relevant to the context and I use word banks to support this
- I begin to use adjectives to add detail to my sentence

Year 2

- My word choices are thoughtful and sometimes ambitious with specific or technical vocabulary used in non-narrative writing
- I use expanded noun phrases to describe, expand and specify
- I use subordination (using when, if, that or because)
- I use sentences with different forms: statements, questions, exclamations and commands
- I use co-ordination
- I use present and past tenses correctly and consistently including progressive form
- I use adjectives, adverbs and expanded noun phrases to add detail and specify

- I can use a range of sentences with more with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions in my writing (when, if, because, although)
- I recognise and use determiners 'a', 'an' and 'the' appropriately
- I use the perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past
- I understand the purpose of adverbs
- I use adverbs effectively in my writing
- I use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause (the next thing, next, soon, so, before, after, during, in, because
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- Word choices are adventurous and carefully selected to add detail and to engage the reader
- Detail is added by the expansion of noun phrases before and after the noun and with the use of adverbials

Year 4

- I use a range of sentences with more than one clause through use of conjunctions
- I use a wider range of conjunctions, such as, although, however, despite, as well as
- I use the correct article 'a' or 'an'
- My sentences are often opened in different ways to create effects
- I use appropriate nouns or pronouns within and across sentences to support cohesion and avoid repetition
- I make improvements to my writing by proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency
- I use expanded noun phrases with modifying adjectives
- I use adverbs and prepositions to express time, place and cause
- I build cohesion within paragraphs through controlled use of tenses; subordinating and coordinating conjunctions
- I use standard English for verb inflections instead of spoken forms

Year 5

- I ensure the correct and consistent use of tense throughout a piece of writing
- I start sentences in different ways
- I use a thesaurus
- I can use stylistic devices to create effects in writing (simile, metaphor personification)
- I use modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility
- I use relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied relative pronoun
- I suggest changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaning
- I use the perfect from of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause
- I choose words for deliberate effect and I use them thoughtfully and with precision

- I use the correct tense throughout a piece of writing
- I use modal verbs mostly appropriately to suggest degrees of possibility (could would, might)
- I add precision, detail and qualification using prepositional phrases and adverbs



- I effectively draft my work so that I enhance meaning and adapt my grammar choices for effect
- I use arrange of cohesive devices including adverbials, within and across sentences and paragraphs
- I ensure correct subject verb agreement in singular and plural
- I use a wide range of clause structures, sometimes varying their position within the sentence (relative clauses/embedded clauses/subordinate and coordinating clauses/adverbials/prepositional clauses)
- I use structures typical of very formal speech.
- I use modal verbs and adverbs to position an argument as well as indicate degrees of possibility, probability and certainty
- I use as range of verb forms to create more subtle meanings
- I use the passive voice to present information with a different emphasis
- My vocabulary choices are imaginative and words are used precisely and appropriately to create impact and enhance meaning

HANDWRITING

Reception

- To know that print carries meaning and in English, is read from left to right and top to bottom
- Explore drawing lines/circles/patterns/making marks
- Shows a dominant hand
- Forms letters from name correctly
- Write from left to right and top to bottom
- Begin to form recognisable letters using the correct formation
- Hold a pencil effectively to form recognisable letters (encourage tripod grip)
- Form most lower-case letters correctly, starting and finishing in the right place, going the right way around and correctly orientated
- Use a pencil/writing tools confidently to write letters that can be clearly recognised and begin to form some capital letters correctly
- To hold paper in position and use their preferred hand for writing

- To sit at the table correctly and hold a pencil comfortably and correctly
- To continue to form lower case letters and upper case letters accurately, reinforcing the correct formation, orientation and size of both, with increasing consistency

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• Teach the formation of letters in families.

Year 2

- To form lower and upper case letters using the correct formation, size and orientation, as well as the relationship to one another
- To use diagonal and horizontal strokes to join letters in most of their writing
- To use diagonal and horizontal strokes in parts of words, according to the length of the word
- To encourage joining of every letter (including letters that finish on the left known as break letters)
- To introduce 'looping' of j, g and y

Year 3

- To use a neat joined handwriting style with increasing accuracy and speed
- Every letter (including letters that finish on the left known as break letters) to be joined
- Reinforce 'feeders' and 'loops' previously taught in KS1

Year 4

- To consistently use a neat joined handwriting style with increasing speed
- Every letter (including letters that finish on the left known as break letters) to be joined
- When modelling joined words, reinforce 'feeders' and 'loops' previously taught

Year 5

- To write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed (beginning to develop their own style)
- Every letter (including letters that finish on the left known as break letters) to be joined
- When modelling joined words, reinforce 'feeders' and 'loops' previously taught

- To maintain legibility in joined handwriting when writing at speed
- Every letter (including letters that finish on the left known as break letters) to be joined