



Overview of Writing at Saint Nathaniel's Academy

Writing Lessons

Writing is taught through the scheme 'Pathways to Write' throughout KS1 and KS2. A wide range of quality texts are part of the scheme which model and promote excellent sentence structure and content.

Year group expectations are set out through Gateway/Mastery/Feature keys which are shared with the children at the start of each unit of work.

Opportunities to explore different genres are set out including a poetry focus in each year group.

Scaffolding and support is provided as and when it is needed. Children provide a self-assessment of the unit of work.

Handwriting and Spelling

The spelling programme 'Pathways to Spell' is used through KS1 and KS2. The spelling lists are shared with parents to enable children to practice weekly spellings. These are tested on a Friday.

Handwriting is taught with a focus on letter formation and joins at the start of every English lesson when working in books. Children are explicitly taught letter formation and these letters are chosen from identifying misconceptions or common mistakes within the class. Letter formation is taught on one line with children practicing the join within a key vocabulary word on the second line.

Tracking progress in writing

Staff use the shared Gateway, Mastery and Feature keys to assess children's progress and chart this on a year group objective list.

Children's end of unit assessment writing piece is used to showcase their proficiency with the keys.

Children all self-assess their own writing, identifying what they are proud of within their work so there is a clear focus on objectives.

Scaffolding and support is put in place as is appropriate, with the explicit understanding that this is removed when appropriate.

Celebrating Writing

Children produce a 'wow write' at the end of each unit. There is a clear focus on creating a draft, editing and uplevelling and then children design a creative presentation which has had an extremely positive impact on how children view their writing journey.

Many of these writing pieces appear on children's masterpiece walls and there is a central display of wow writing. This display not only showcases beautiful presentation, but is a clear observation of progression in writing from EYFS through to Y6. Children frequently refer to their wow writes as being what they are most proud of.

