



## Writing, spelling, grammar and handwriting information at WPS

In English, we follow the Liverpool plans for writing but also we believe in using quality texts to enhance our writing and to allow some flexibility in planning. The use of high quality books within the reading curriculum is at the heart of a school's successful approach to engage and support children to become motivated and independent readers. We believe that reading provides a model for writing. Children will note the features of realistic fiction stories as they read and use these in their own writing., both fiction and non fiction. Additionally, as reading quality texts exposes children to new vocabulary, the children will be able to use this vocabulary in their writing. Reading exposes you to different writing styles and children absorb grammar features, style and punctuation.

### Spelling

The children are taught phonics in Foundation Stage, KS1 and in some cases lower KS2. Children throughout school are also taught spelling patterns that they practise through daily spelling activities and games within class. Children are also given the spelling pattern so that they can find and practise identifying, reading and writing words with each spelling pattern at home. Alongside this, children learn the common exception words and statutory spellings set out in the National Curriculum. The children start to learn the common exception words in Year 1, the statutory spelling words in year 3 and continue to learn, revisit and revise these until they leave primary school at the end of Year 6.

We offer good opportunities for children to apply and experience success if carefully structured.

### Handwriting

Even in this technological age handwriting is an essential skill.

It is vital that all staff and volunteers as well as families know *how* letters are formed. Correct letter movement should be modelled at all times.

Correct letter formation begins at the very start of KS1 linked the READ WRITE INC. phonic teaching and is linked to the sounds that letters

make. By the end of KS1, children are taught and encouraged to use a joined up script. This continues throughout KS2 and by the end of Y6, children should have handwriting that is joined and legible. Children will use a pencil to write until Y4 when if they are consistently joining their writing, they will change to using a pen.

We have handwriting support groups in KS1 and also in KS2.

### Grammar

The teaching of grammar is embedded into the every day teaching of English and when writing in other curriculum areas such as history and geography.

At Woolton Primary School, we follow the 2014 National Curriculum for the teaching and learning of writing skills. Grammar is taught as part of this curriculum with specific areas of grammar taught in every year group. It is important that pupils learn the correct grammatical terms in English and that these terms are integrated within teaching writing. They are taught to use the elements of spelling, grammar and punctuation. Teachers will take every opportunity to highlight the spelling, grammar or punctuation focus, whether that be during a book study session or even a different curriculum subject, throughout the week. We also explicitly teach specific grammar terms and model how they are used in writing.

