



Intentions For Writers In Year 1

It is our intention to provide our pupils with stimulating learning opportunities in order for them to develop into independent and motivated young writers who can plan and produce a wide range of well-structured texts types that are engaging to an audience, neatly presented and accurate in terms of spelling, grammar and punctuation.



It is our intention that by the end of Year 1 the children will know all letters of the alphabet and the sounds which they most commonly represent. We expect them to be able to recognise the consonant digraphs and the vowel digraphs that they have been taught and the sounds which they represent. They should also be able to recognise words with adjacent consonants. By the end of Year 1 we expect our pupils to accurately spell most words containing the 40+ previously taught phonemes and GPCs. They should also be able to spell some words in a phonically plausible way, even if sometimes they are incorrect. The children will be expected to be able to apply all of the Year 1 spelling rules and guidance that is outlined in the National Curriculum -including being able to spell all of the listed common exception words correctly. We also expect them to be able to spell days of the week correctly.

During their time in Year 1 the pupils will begin to develop an understanding of prefixes and suffixes. They will learn to use -s and -es to form regular plurals correctly and also to use the prefix 'un-' accurately. On leaving Year 1, the pupils should successfully be able to add the suffixes -ing, -ed, -er and -est to root words where no change is needed in the spelling of the root words (e.g. helped, quickest). It is the expectation that our pupils will be able to spell simple compound words (e.g. dustbin and football) and that they will be able to read words that they have spelt. Throughout their time in Year 1 the children will be given regular opportunities to take part in the process of segmenting spoken words into phonemes before choosing graphemes to represent those phonemes.

Whilst in Year 1, the pupils will continue to develop important basic skills in the areas of letter formation, placement and positioning. They will learn how to write lower case and capital letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place with a good level of consistency. They will be shown how to sit correctly at a table and how to hold a pencil comfortably and correctly. By the end of the year the pupils will be expected to be able to form the digits 0-9 correctly. It is also an expectation that they will have developed an understanding of which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to have spent a lot of time practising these. As they leave Year 1 the pupils will have begun to use the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters.

During their time in Year 1 the children will be given regular opportunities to start to develop their planning, writing and editing skills. They will be encouraged to say out loud what they are going to write about. The children will be required to sequence sentences to form short narratives and then regularly discuss what they have written with the teacher and other pupils. Throughout the year the children will be encouraged to reread their writing to check that it makes sense and then to independently begin to make changes. They will be given lots of opportunities to develop the important skill of being able to read their writing aloud clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher.

As they travel through Year 1, the children will be introduced to the simple features of different text types. They will start to be able to make relevant choices about subject matter and also make appropriate vocabulary choices. Within their writing, it is expected that the children will start to engage readers by using adjectives to describe. In Year 1, the children will build on the foundations of constructing sentences that they developed in the EYFS by using simple sentence structures and also continuing to use basic conjunctions such as “and” to join ideas in sentences. It is our expectation that by the end of Year 1 the pupils will be beginning to form simple compound sentences.

We feel that it is of vital importance that the children leave Year 1 with a strong understanding of how to use the most basic punctuation. It is the expectation that all pupils will be able to use capital letters for names, places, the days of the week and for the personal pronoun ‘I’. On a daily basis the children will be reminded to use finger spaces between words and they will develop a thorough understanding of how to use full stops at the end of sentences. During their time in Year 1, the pupils will also be introduced to and shown how to use question marks and exclamation marks.

It is our aim that our children leave Year 1 as enthusiastic, budding, young writers that have a secure understanding of how to apply their phonic skills, think about their ideas, hold their pencils correctly and clearly construct punctuated sentences.