



Writing at Longshaw

"If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write." – Martin Luther

At Longshaw, we develop writing skills, including grammar, punctuation, and spelling, so that our children have the knowledge, skills, and stamina to write across a range of genres and for different purposes, achieving an age-appropriate standard. Writing instruction is systematic, consistently building on prior learning, and incorporates shared, modelled, guided, peer-edited, and independent writing.

We use the reading of a wide variety of high-quality texts to support children in the 'ideas gathering' and planning stages of writing. Immersion in good literature develops pupils' vocabulary, addressing gaps, and allows children to explore and appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage. At Longshaw, literature is carefully selected to provide purposeful opportunities for discussion of British Values, our School Values, mental health and well-being, and citizenship. This approach develops children's cultural capital while ensuring content meets their needs and interests.

Our writing curriculum is designed so that skills needed in fiction, non-fiction, and poetry are developed progressively throughout a pupil's school life. The National Curriculum for each year group is followed closely through a 'unit of writing' approach, with each year building on prior learning and further developing English knowledge and skills.

Children are taught in mixed-ability classes, and intervention programmes such as **Little Wandle Rapid Catchup** are used for pupils who require additional support. Early intervention is a priority to identify and support additional needs promptly.

We believe all pupils should take pride in the presentation of their writing. To support this, we encourage the development of a fluent, joined handwriting style by the time pupils move to secondary school, using the **Letter-join cursive handwriting scheme**.