

The Gnosall St Lawrence CE Primary Academy English curriculum is designed to equip children with the skills, knowledge and resilience to become confident readers and writers. Through varied and high-quality activities, we focus on the development of reading and writing skills. Pupils read high quality texts as a class and apply their writing skills to produce high quality pieces of work. All aspects of English including punctuation, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, handwriting and the spoken language are developed and taught through our sequential curriculum.

Who What When:

In Pre School, children will explore mark making and develop the fine motor skills required to hold a pencil. Children will also experience a range of books and gain a love for listening and reading. In Reception, children will build on their letter recognition and mark making ability through continuous provision activities and in Read Write Inc sessions. Children will also start to develop an understanding of how to use simple punctuation marks. In Year 1 children will develop their handwriting style and increase their understanding of grammar and punctuation through Read Write Inc and topic writing. Read Write Inc instils a love for reading and ensures children's phonics are secure before moving on.

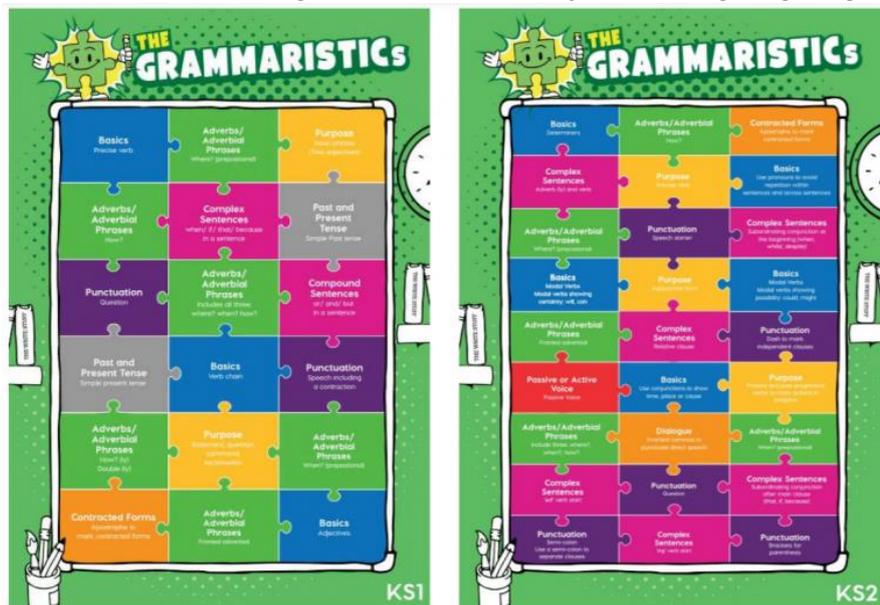
In Year 2, pupils will move from the Read Write Inc programme onto The Write Stuff approach to literacy. They also begin explicit SPaG sessions, linked to their current learning. In KS2, The Write Stuff is used to introduce children to a range of quality texts. It enables teachers to model effective writing and therefore improves children's understanding and skill set in this area. Key names for grammatical features are used and applied. Pupils develop a consistent style of handwriting, an experience of writing fiction and non-fiction texts and their own writer's voice. Reading skills are applied in literacy sessions, throughout a literacy unit, to enable pupils to 'read as writers' and 'write as readers'.

The Write Stuff uses three essential components to support children in becoming great writers. The three zones of writing are:

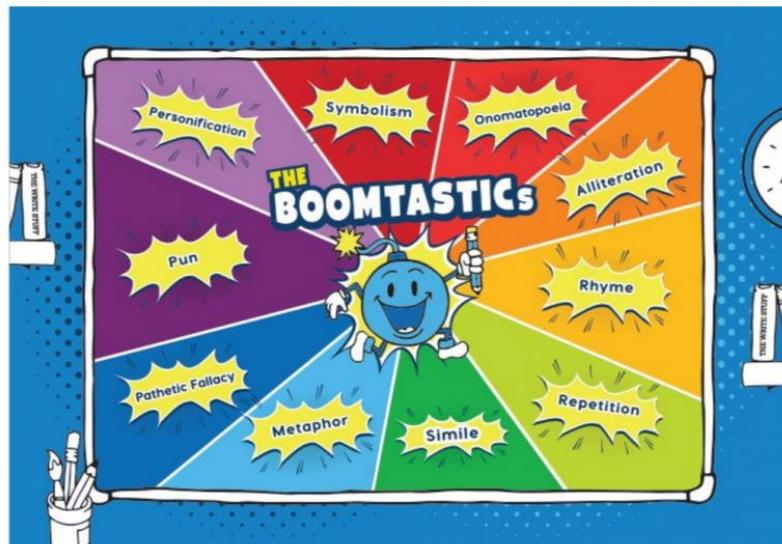
The **FANTASTICS**. These represent the nine ideas for writing.



The **GRAMMARISTICS**. The grammar rules of our language system.



The **BOOMTASTICS**. The writing techniques to add drama, style and poetic devices to writing.



Spellings

Spellings are taught explicitly in every year group, every day. In Early Years and Key Stage 1, spellings are taught through Read Write Inc. Daily RWI sessions involve systematic synthetic phonics to develop reading and spelling. In addition to this daily spelling practice, pupils in Y1 and 2 take home 5 spellings and are tested on these each week. Pupils are grouped appropriately based on regular RWI assessments.

In Key Stage 2, excluding Year 6, pupils follow the RWI KS2 Spelling Programme to ensure consistency and appropriate sequencing from KS1. Pupils have daily spelling sessions of approximately 15 minutes in which they complete a range of tasks from the RWI Spelling Programme. Pupils take home 10 spellings linked to their daily sessions and are tested on these spellings each week. Year 6 pupils complete daily spelling activities which focus on statutory end of key Stage expectations and consolidating previous learning. Pupils take home 20 spellings, linked to their daily sessions. These are tested each week. Please see our Spellings Policy for more information.

Handwriting

It is our aim that every child develops a fluent, legible and personalised style of handwriting by the time they leave in Year 6. We believe that when taught effectively and consistently, handwriting can be mastered by the majority of pupils during the primary phase, allowing them to develop a more effective style of handwriting by the time they begin secondary school. Please see our Handwriting Policy for more information.

Speedy SPaG

In KS2, pupils have the opportunity to embed their SPaG learning at the start of every literacy lessons through their Speedy SPaG starter. This is self-marked and checked by the teacher. It's an excellent opportunity to practise SPaG elements that help to make our writing brilliant.

Helping at Home

Parents are encouraged to support their child/children at home by reading with them regularly. These can be recorded in pupils' reading records and remember 5 reads equals a sticker on your sticker card! Try to provide as many independent writing opportunities as possible. There will always be writing opportunities in children's Learning Logs.