



Farnham Primary School

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Intent

At Farnham, it is our intent that all pupils should be able to confidently communicate their knowledge, ideas and emotions through their writing. We want pupils to acquire a wide vocabulary, a solid understanding of grammar and be able to spell new words by effectively applying the spelling patterns and rules they learn throughout their time in primary school. We want children to write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences. We believe that all good writers refine and edit their writing over time, so we want children to develop independence in being able to identify their own areas for improvement in all pieces of writing, editing their work effectively during and after the writing process.

Implementation

We teach English as whole class lessons, so that all children have access to the age-related skills and knowledge contained in the National Curriculum.

Within lessons, teachers and teaching assistants support learners to enable them to achieve at an age-related level wherever possible. This may involve a greater level of scaffolding and access to additional support materials such as handy helpers, word banks or a greater level of modelling.

Children working beyond their expected age, are given opportunities to extend their writing in a variety of ways, including through showing greater control in their writing, a deeper understanding of the impact that their writing has on the reader and by using a higher level of vocabulary and grammar features.

Spellings:

Spellings are taught according to the rules and words contained in Appendix 1 of the English National Curriculum. Teachers provide weekly homework spellings based on these spelling lists and provide opportunities to apply these within the wider curriculum. Children are expected to learn these spellings each week and are given a spelling test the following week.

When marking work, teachers identify words children have spelt incorrectly and provide opportunities for children to correct and practise these. Children are then encouraged to identify these incorrect spellings in their own writing and correct them independently.

Grammar and Punctuation:

Grammar and punctuation knowledge and skills are taught through English lessons as much as possible. Teachers plan to teach the required skills through the genres of writing that they are teaching, linking it to the genre to make it more connected with the intended writing outcome. Teachers focus on grammar and punctuation skills in weekly standalone lessons to embed and develop understanding and to consolidate skills.

We understand the importance of parents and carers in supporting their children to develop both grammar, spelling and composition skills, and so we encourage a home-school partnership which enables parents and carers to understand how to enhance the skills being taught in school through support by teachers and the English lead.