

St Mary's Writing Progression of Skills

Our Progression of Skills document demonstrates a clear journey from emergent writers in Reception to independent, confident writers in Year 6.

Strand	Reception (Drawing Club)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Ideas for Writing	Orally tell imaginative stories from drawings and books. Begin to write some sentences.	Sequence simple ideas.	Plan around a story or experience.	Organise into paragraphs.	Develop ideas within paragraphs.	Manipulate structure for effect.	Select structure confidently for audience and purpose.
Oracy and Oral Rehearsal	Listen attentively to stories, poems and conversations. Retell familiar stories using pictures, props and actions. Answer and ask simple questions about stories. Orally rehearse simple sentences before writing.	Retell familiar stories in sequence using story language. Orally rehearse each sentence before writing. Use talk partners to generate ideas and vocabulary. Build confidence speaking in front of small groups. Begin role play and hot seating to deepen understanding of characters.	Sustain discussions with partners and groups. Retell stories using richer vocabulary and varied sentence structures. Use drama, conscience alley and role play to explore characters' feelings. Verbally plan narratives and non-fiction texts before writing. Explain ideas using evidence from the text. Rehearse extended sentences orally	Participate confidently in discussions, building on others' ideas. Justify opinions using evidence from texts. Use oral rehearsal to develop paragraphs before writing. Explore characters through hot seating, interviews and freeze frames. Verbally rehearse dialogue using expression and intonation.	Engage in collaborative discussions with increased independence. Debate viewpoints respectfully using evidence. Evaluate and refine ideas through discussion before drafting. Use drama techniques to explore plot, atmosphere and relationships. Present ideas clearly to an audience using	Lead discussions and ask thoughtful questions. Present balanced arguments, considering alternative viewpoints. Use oral rehearsal to manipulate sentence structure for effect. Use role play to develop character voice and perspective. Evaluate peers' ideas constructively. Expand author's craft through performance and discussion. Orally plan extended pieces of writing,	Speak confidently in formal and informal situations, adapting language appropriately. Justify opinions using evidence and reasoned argument. Lead debates, presentations and collaborative discussions. Manipulate tone, register and viewpoint through spoken language. Critically evaluate ideas through

			<i>before writing them.</i>	<i>Adapt spoken language for different audiences and purposes.</i>	<i>appropriate vocabulary. Verbally organise paragraphs before writing.</i>	<i>considering structure and audience.</i>	<i>discussion before drafting, editing and publishing. Present sustained spoken explanations and persuasive arguments confidently to a range of audiences. Orally rehearse entire sections of writing, refining vocabulary and sentence choices.</i>
Composition and Ideas	<i>Develop stories through drawing and talk. Retell familiar stories. Invent simple characters and settings. Use imagination inspired by quality texts. Orally rehearse sentences before writing.</i>	<i>Re-read stories to imitate language. Sequence events. Write simple narratives. Write for real purposes (instructions, diary entries, post cards). Say sentences before writing.</i>	<i>Sustain ideas across several sentences. Write narratives with beginning, middle and end. Write simple non-fiction. Consider what a reader needs.</i>	<i>Plan before writing. Group ideas into paragraphs. Develop characters and settings. Write across a wider range of genres.</i>	<i>Create cohesion within paragraphs. Build tension and atmosphere. Adapt writing to purpose.</i>	<i>Experiment with different structures. Shift viewpoint. Use dialogue effectively. Build cohesion across a whole text.</i>	<i>Write confidently for different audiences. Manipulate structure for effect. Sustain style. Write independently over extended pieces.</i>
Vocabulary	<i>Build vocabulary through high-quality texts</i>	<i>Use story language.</i>	<i>Use expanded noun phrases. Select powerful verbs.</i>	<i>Use ambitious vocabulary. Begin to use figurative</i>	<i>Use precise vocabulary.</i>	<i>Use vocabulary that reflects characters and settings.</i>	<i>Use precise vocabulary chosen</i>

	and imaginative play. Use adventurous vocabulary from stories. Learn rich vocabulary through stories. Use new words in talk.	Choose interesting adjectives and verbs.		language (simile and personification)	Understand that vocabulary creates mood.	Use figurative vocabulary appropriately.	deliberately for impact.
Sentence Development/ Structure	Speak in full sentences. Begin to write simple sentences.	Write simple and some coordinated sentences. Use capital letters and full stops. Join ideas using "and".	Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. Write questions and commands.	Use fronted adverbials. Use a variety of sentence openings.	Use complex sentences. Vary sentence length for effect. Use expanded noun phrases.	Control complex sentences. Use relative clauses. Included parenthesis. Use modal verbs.	Use passive voice where appropriate. Use formal and informal structures. Manipulate sentence length and type.
Grammar and Punctuation	Begin to write simple sentences using capital letters and full stops. Use finger spaces and orally rehearse sentences before writing.	Use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks accurately. Join words and clauses using and. Use capital letters for names and the pronoun I.	Use coordination (and, or, but) and subordination (when, if, because, that). Use expanded noun phrases, apostrophes for contraction and possession, commas in lists and punctuation for different sentence types.	Use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time, place and cause. Use paragraphs, headings and subheadings. Punctuate direct speech with inverted commas. Use commas after fronted adverbials.	Use standard English verb forms. Extend sentences with fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. Punctuate direct speech accurately. Use apostrophes for plural possession.	Use relative clauses, modal verbs, adverbs of possibility, expanded noun phrases, parenthesis (brackets, dashes, commas), commas to clarify meaning and cohesive devices within and across paragraphs.	Use the passive voice and subjunctive form where appropriate. Distinguish between formal and informal language. Use colons, semi-colons, bullet points and hyphens accurately.

							Manipulate punctuation and grammar to enhance clarity, cohesion and effect.
Transcription (Spelling and Handwriting)	Correct pencil grip. Form recognisable letters. Write own name. Hear and write simple sounds.	Correct letter formation, forming lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and ending in the right place. Spaces between words. Form capital letters. Spell common exception words.	Joined handwriting begins. Increase spelling accuracy. Segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes. Learn to use the possessive apostrophe (singular). Add suffixes to spelling longer words, including. -ment, -ness, -ful, -less and -ly.	Joined handwriting. Use dictionaries and thesauruses. Spell a range of homophones. Use the possessive apostrophe (plural).	Fluent joined handwriting. Use dictionaries and thesauruses. Write from memory simple dictated sentences.	Use further prefixes and suffixes. Spell some words with silent letters (knight, psalm, solemn) Use dictionaries and thesauruses. Use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of words.	Use dictionaries and thesauruses. Write legibly and fluently with increasing speed.
Editing	Read writing aloud. Add missing ideas with support.	Check writing makes sense. Check for capital letters and full stops.	Improve vocabulary. Correct punctuation.	Begin to edit independently.	Improve cohesion.	Edit for audience.	Redraft substantially to improve effectiveness.
Authorial Craft	Notice interesting words.	Borrow patterns from quality texts.	Imitate author's language.	Use techniques from model texts.	Explain why an author made certain language choices.	Experiment with author's techniques.	Develop an individual writing voice inspired by reading.

	Innovate stories through Drawing Club.						
Writing Process	• Talk • Draw • Tell • Write	• Talk • Plan • Write • Read aloud	• Talk • Plan • Draft • Edit	• Oracy- hot seating, role play, debate • Identify and discuss features of a text (WAGOLL) • Guided, shared writing • Plan • Draft • Revise • Edit • Publish			