

Writing at Floreat Wandsworth



At Floreat Wandsworth, our children love to write and strive to be:

- confident, independent writers;
- able to apply their writing skills across the curriculum;
- Year-7 ready.

We do this by following Pie Corbett's *Talk4Writing* approach; the key to this approach being the children internalising the language structures needed to write through 'talking the text', as well as close reading. The children move from dependence towards independence, with our teachers using shared and guided teaching to develop the ability in them to write creatively and powerfully.

Intent

For pupils to succeed in education and beyond, their writing needs to be strong. We aim for all our pupils - regardless of their needs, abilities or background - to develop fast, fluent, legible, and fully automatised handwriting so that all their attention can be turned towards their writing's contents; and for their writing's contents to be grammatically accurate as well as effective for the purpose they happen to be writing.

Handwriting Expectations for all pupils can be found on the website within the 'Subject by Subject' section.

Implementation

At Floreat Wandsworth, *Talk4Writing* is implemented in lessons in 3 stages:

1. **Imitation:** using a 'text map' and actions to strengthen memory, children internalise a model text pitched well above their level and which has built into it the underlying, transferable structures and language patterns that students will need when they are writing.
2. **Innovation:** teachers use shared and guided writing to innovate, over a number of days, the text type they have imitated, concentrating on bringing all its elements together while writing effectively and accurately.
3. **Invention:** students apply independently what has been taught and practised: they truly have time for their own writing. Teachers may provide a stimulus such as a film clip, interesting object, drama, wordless picture book, work of art, music, visitor or visit as a starting point, but the students decide what and how to write.

Core Principles

At Floreat, these core principles underpin our teaching of writing:

- Keeping it simple and clear;
- Using small steps, bit by bit, for new and hard material;
- Pitching it high and expecting everyone to succeed;
- Providing feedback in lessons and after lessons.

Impact

We measure impact through learning walks, book looks, 1:1 writing feedback, looking through formative and summative data and listening to pupil, parent and teacher voice. Furthermore, Subject Leaders meet termly to evaluate impact and assess pupils' learning.