

Writing Intent

“You can make anything by writing.” – C.S. Lewis

At XII Apostles, we believe that writing is a powerful tool for communication, creativity, and self-expression. Our intent is to equip all children with the knowledge, skills and experiences they need to become enthusiastic, confident, fluent and purposeful writers. We aim to develop pupils who write with clarity, imagination and impact—who understand the craft of writing, who see themselves as writers and who write for enjoyment. As confident and competent writers, our children will have the opportunity to experience future career success leading to financial and economic well-being and thus, for many, escaping the poverty trap in an area of high deprivation.

We are committed to ensuring that children:

- Develop a love of writing and a strong sense of pride in their written work.
- Understand how to plan, draft, revise, and evaluate their writing with increasing independence.
- Secure firm foundations in transcriptional skills (spelling, handwriting, punctuation) to enable fluency in composition.
- Build a rich vocabulary and grammatical knowledge, applied effectively for a range of purposes and audiences.
- Learn to write with purpose—informing, entertaining, persuading or reflecting—developing their voice and control as writers.
- Develop a growing awareness of the power of language and how it shapes meaning across contexts and cultures.

Writing Implementation

Writing is taught daily through a high-quality English curriculum that builds knowledge and skill systematically over time. Units of work are designed to develop both transcriptional fluency and compositional craft, with clear progression across year groups. Each unit typically begins with a high-quality stimulus—such as a rich text, learning experience, or real-life event—and follows a structured sequence of reading, speaking, modelling, drafting, revising, and publishing.

Our curriculum incorporates the principles of Talk for Writing and ensures that children speak and listen purposefully, orally rehearsing their ideas before writing. Grammar, punctuation and spelling are taught both discretely and in context, ensuring pupils understand how to apply these skills within meaningful writing tasks.

Key features of our writing provision include:

- Exposure to a wide range of high-quality texts, enabling pupils to explore different writing forms, styles and authorial voices.

- Opportunities to write for real purposes and audiences, both within English and across the wider curriculum.
- Immersive experiences, including school visits, themed days, drama, and role play to inspire and contextualise writing.
- Planned progression in vocabulary, syntax, cohesion, and text structure, allowing pupils to develop control and confidence in their writing.
- Explicit teaching of transcriptional skills, including spelling (through a structured programme), handwriting and sentence construction.
- Use of shared, guided and independent writing, supported by adaptive teaching strategies to meet the needs of all learners.
- A focus on editing and redrafting, with pupils taught how to reflect on, improve and refine their writing using strategies such as peer/self-assessment, success criteria, and visual tools like editing stations.
- Strong cross-curricular links, allowing children to apply and consolidate their writing skills in subjects such as science, history, RE and geography.
- Modelled use of Standard English, ensuring pupils can recognise and use formal written and spoken language where appropriate.

Writing is adapted to meet the needs of individual children taking into account their primary need, making reasonable adjustments and through adaptive teaching.

Pupils are supported to become increasingly independent writers, with access to tools such as dictionaries, thesauruses, word mats, and working walls. Writing is celebrated and shared within and beyond the classroom to promote pride and motivation.

Through a coherent and ambitious writing curriculum, our children develop the substantive knowledge (e.g. grammar, spelling rules, text structures) and disciplinary knowledge (how to write effectively for purpose and audience) that they need to thrive both academically and creatively.

At the heart of our approach is the belief that every child is a writer.

We want all children to feel proud of their creativity, to value their own ideas, and to understand that writing is a powerful form of communication, expression, and connection with others.

Through a rich and inspiring writing curriculum, we aim for children to leave our school with a deep appreciation of language, the confidence to keep writing, and the understanding that their voice matters. We want our pupils to see that writing can take them anywhere—from crafting stories, poetry, and persuasive arguments to pathways in journalism, publishing, law, marketing, media, and more.