



## **Our English Writing Curriculum**

At Lionel Walden, we believe that our children deserve a broad and ambitious English writing curriculum, rich in skills and knowledge, which ignites their passion to write and express themselves. The ability to communicate effectively, confidently and with clarity is a crucial life skill that is developed throughout their time at school, ready to be further developed as they transition to secondary school and beyond.

The link between phonics, reading and writing is built upon to enable children to become fluent in writing and accurate in spelling. From the simplest sentences in the early years, to the more complex, descriptive sentences in later years, the audience and purpose of writing is always kept at the forefront of children's minds. This ensures that children think about how they communicate their ideas, whether it addresses their audience and whether it achieves its purpose. Providing our children with a rich curriculum, packed full of new ideas and experiences ensures that they have more knowledge to bring to their writing. Exposing them to a vast range of literature and texts, both fictional and factual, allows them to see how language can be used to entertain, inform, persuade and discuss.

### **Big Ideas in English**

The big ideas that our English curriculum revolves around include developing foundational writing skills, such as organising thoughts and ideas, using correct grammar and punctuation, and developing a love of writing.

1. **Organisation:** we want our children to be able to organise their own thoughts and ideas in a logical and coherent way. This includes creating outlines, using organisers, and writing paragraphs with a clear beginning, middle, and end.
2. **Grammar and punctuation:** understanding and using correct grammar and punctuation ensures that sense is made when writing sentences.
3. **Vocabulary:** expanding children's vocabulary knowledge allows them to add shades of colour and feeling to their writing. It also ensures that they more precisely articulate meaning in their writing.
4. **Voice and style:** we explore different text types and genres of writing to demonstrate how writers express themselves. This encourages our children to develop their own unique voice and style to their writing that reflects their personality and interests.
5. **The writing process:** our children learn the process of creating a piece of writing. They learn to brainstorm, draft, revise, edit and publish their own ideas. This helps our children produce more polished pieces of writing.
6. **Handwriting:** we believe that all children should be encouraged to take pride in the presentation of their writing by developing a legible and joined handwriting style by the time they transfer to secondary school.
7. **Love for writing:** Ultimately, we want our children to enjoy the writing process. By providing great writing stimuli and opportunities to be creative, our children are more likely to continue writing and developing their skills throughout their lives.