

# **Quality of Education in Writing at Ambleside Academy**

# <u>Our Intent</u>

At Ambleside Academy, our homegrown 'Authors in Training' Programme supports all pupils to enjoy and succeed in writing effective texts for a range of purposes. We understand that successful writing is built upon a strong foundation of Transcription, combined with skills of Composition. The seven phases of the 'Authors in Training' Programme guide pupils through the course of a Writing unit, to be able to: perform a range of texts using the spoken word, analyse models for features specific to the genre, understand the effect and purpose of vocabulary, plan and structure coherent narratives, apply grammatical concepts correctly and effectively review their work and the work of others. Where pupils are not working at age-related standards, gaps in learning are quickly identified and Transcription skills are prioritised through an adapted curriculum, to ensure pupils make accelerated progress.

We believe that with these range of skills, all pupils at Ambleside Academy become successful authors, who are motivated to write and take pride in creating effective pieces of work that show awareness of the reader.

This Statement of Learning sets out clear expectations for the high Quality of Education that **all pupils** should receive in Writing. It details the key ingredients required to equip all pupils with the **skills**, **knowledge**, **and expertise** that they need to be **successful writers**.

# Long-Term Genre Overview

Our Long-Term Genre Overview maps out the text types that each child will be immersed in, in each term from EYFS through to Year 6. The themes are outlined for each unit – these either link to what the pupils are currently learning in their **foundation subjects**, or to our school **Reading Spine**. The genres have been mapped in a way that allows our children to build their knowledge and understanding of writing for a **range of purposes**, with opportunities for **repetition**, **consolidation**, and **vertical progression in challenge** year by year. It is our expectation that by the end of Primary School, our pupils will have been explicitly taught the features and purposes of a varied range of text types, and that they will be expert in their knowledge of these as writers.



Notes-Recount (1 or 2 Weeks) to be fluid across the year based on educational visits and enrichment. Blog will be created for our Ambleside's Website.

An An Acade	bleside			An	nbleside's Au	uthors in Tra	ining Progra	mme						
		Autum	n Term			Sprin	g Term		Summer Term					
EYFS	Non-Fiction	Non-Fiction	Narrative	Non Fiction	(retelling narrative)		Non-Fiction	Narrative	Non-Fiction Fact Files	Narrative	Non-Fiction Fact Files	Narrative		
Themes	History	Diversity	Seasons Natural World	Celebrations	Seasons Winter	Adventure	The Natural World	The Natural World	The Natural World	Minibeasts and Science	Sustainable Development	Adventure Story Geography		
Year 1	Traditional Tale Short Story	Explanation	Diary	Instructions	Short Story (retelling narrative)	Letter	Non Chronological Report	Instructions	Short Story (retelling narrative)	Shape Poetry	Diary	Letter Transition		
Themes	Reading: Archaic Language	Science: The Seasons/Weather	History: Time- Traveling Shopkeeper's Diary	History: How to Trick a Grumpy Granny	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	Science: All About Pets (focus on 1 animal)	Geography	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	History	PSHCE		
Year 2	Traditional Tale Short Story	Explanation	Diary	Instructions	Short Story (retelling narrative)	Letter	Non Chronological Report	Instructions	Short Story (retelling narrative)	Shape Poetry- Senses/Vocab	Diary	Letter Transition		
Themes	Reading: Archaic Language	Science: Food Chains	History: Diary of Samuel Pepys	History: How to Trick a Fire-Breathing Dragon	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	Science: Animal Habitats	Geography	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	History	PSHCE		
Year 3	Traditional Tale 3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Short Story	Explanation	Diary	Advanced Instructions	3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Adventure Story	Formal Letter Complaint	Advanced Non Chronological Report	Advanced Instructions	Short Story Myths and Legends	Emotive Poetry	Diary	Letter Transition		
Themes	Reading: Archaic Language	Science: Rocks: How to find a fossil	History: Diary of a Stone Age boy	History: How to Tame a Woolly Mammoth	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	Science: Parts of a Flowering Plant	Geography	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	History	PSHCE		
Year 4	Traditional Tale 3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Short Story	Explanation	Diary	Advanced Instructions	3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Adventure Story	Formal Letter Complaint	Advanced Non Chronological Report	Advanced Instructions	Short Story Myths and Legends	Emotive Poetry	Diary	Letter Transition		
Themes	Reading: Archaic Language	Science:	History: Diary of an Anglo-Saxon Soldier	History: How to Trick a Bear wolf	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	Science: Types of Teeth or The Digestive System	Geography	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	History	PSHCE		
Year 5	Traditional Tale 3 <sup>rd </sup> Person Short Story Moral	Explanation	Diary	Advanced Instructions	1 <sup>st</sup> person Flashback Narrative	Letter Balanced Argument	Biography	Advanced Instructions	Extended 3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Adventure Story.	Shakespeare Sonnets	Autobiography	Formal Letter of application Year 6 Job		
Themes	Reading: Archaic Language	Science: How do we change into adults?	History: Diary of an Ancient Greek child	History: How to Trick Medusa	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	Science: Mae Jemison	Geography	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	History	PSHCE		
Year 6	Traditional Tale 3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Short Story Moral	Explanation	Diary	Advanced Instructions	1st person Flashback Narrative	Letter Balanced Argument	Biography	Advanced Instructions	Extended 3 <sup>rd</sup> Person Adventure Story.	Shakespeare Sonnets	Autobiography	Formal Letter of application Big Day		
Themes	Reading: Archaic Language	Science: The Journey of your Blood	History: Diary of a WW2 soldier	History: How to Escape from Danger (e.g. build a portal, potion etc)	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	Science.	Geography	Reading Spine	Reading Spine	History	PSHCE		

#### The Seven Phases of an 'Ambleside Authors in Training' Unit

Our programme provides a **coherent and clearly sequenced planning formula** which is quick and simple to create and can be applied to any unit or genre of writing in any year group. Across a Unit of Work, children are expected to be engaged in the following seven phases of learning so that they make progress:

• Connect

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- Explicit Vocabulary Instruction
- Rehearse and Immerse
- Deconstruct
- Attempt
- Refine
- Challenge

We believe that all these phases are essential for children to be explicitly taught the skills required to be successful writers. It is our aim that by the end of a Writing unit, all children will be able to write a **coherent** piece of writing **at length** which has a **clear audience and purpose** in mind. We teach our children the necessary skills of **Transcription** (Spelling and Handwriting) and **Composition** (Articulation of



Ideas and Structure in Speech and Writing), as well as the skills of **Planning**, **Editing** and **Reviewing**.

**Oracy** underpins the high standards that we have in our teaching of Writing. We ensure that our children are exposed to a wide and ambitious diet of vocabulary that they are expected to know, use and explore in both the **spoken** and **written** forms. We explicitly teach vocabulary through direct instruction and understand the importance of daily opportunities to develop pupils' personal lexicons.

Phase	Icon	Teaching Sequence and Activities	Examples of Lessons and Work
Connect		<ul> <li>Recaps and opportunities to consolidate prior learning</li> </ul>	Connect: Adjective or Verb?         Adjective       Verb         deploy       Connect: Have these dashes for parenthesis been used correctly?       Connect: Have these dashes for parenthesis been used correctly?         These scarlet heroes - which are flat and disk-shaped - travel through your veins.       Correct is correctly?       Correct is correctly?
Explicit Vocabulary Instruction	₩ H	<ul> <li>Explicit teaching of key Tier 2 and 3 'Sparkle Vocabulary' from the unit: definitions, synonyms and shades of meaning</li> <li>Opportunities for pupils to explore morphology and etymology of words, and make links between them</li> </ul>	Sparite Vocabulary         • London         • flarmable         • raced         • abruptly         • scorching         • relentless         • eventually         • survived         • gunpowder         • ashes         • relief

See these seven phases in more detail below:



		Write these common exception words neatly onto your whiteboard.
Rehearse and Immerse	<ul> <li>Guided read of model texts as worked examples</li> <li>Oral rehearsal of model text with actions, with explicit teaching of intonation and expression</li> <li>Analysis of model texts for both SPaG features and authorial intent, with a focus on the effect of vocabulary</li> <li>'A Page for a Purpose': in depth discussion of the purpose of the text, and how the author has ensured impact on the reader</li> <li>Story Mapping/Boarding and Picture Plotting</li> <li>Sequencing activities</li> <li>Explicit teaching of spellings with</li> </ul>	<section-header><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></section-header>
and	<ul> <li>the purpose of the text, and how the author has ensured impact on the reader</li> <li>Story Mapping/Boarding and Picture Plotting</li> <li>Sequencing activities</li> </ul>	Tressare Hunt - Non-Chronological Report
	<ul> <li>Daily spelling warm- ups, focussing on 'what is tricky' about the spelling of each</li> </ul>	And the rest of the second of



Deconstruct		<ul> <li>Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar skills explicitly taught in the context of the model text</li> <li>Simple Sentence Construction and further Dictation practise in KS1</li> </ul>	<text><text><section-header><text><section-header><form><form><form><form><form><form><form><form></form></form></form></form></form></form></form></form></section-header></text></section-header></text></text>
Attempt	(12) (12) (12) (12) (12) (12) (12) (12)	<ul> <li>Opportunities for shared, modelled writing of the original model text, to focus on and improve transcription skills</li> <li>Editing at sentence level, in the context of the model text, to explicitly teach the skills of self-correction (basic punctuation and common exception word spelling)</li> </ul>	Attempt: Model Write - Part 2       Image: Construction of the second seco



Refine		<ul> <li>'Sprinkle some Sparkle' Vocabulary Development lessons – whole class discussion to broaden and share vocabulary and 'turn of phrase'</li> <li>Box it Up Planning: Opportunities for structured planning sessions to develop pupil ideas</li> <li>Vocabulary and Feature planning sessions to help pupils prepare for final writes</li> <li>Editing lessons, focussing on making additions and revisions to refine the writer's impact on the reader</li> <li>Drafting sessions</li> <li>Assessed Writes</li> <li>Sessions for Editing and Reviewing pupil work, supported by teachers</li> </ul>	<complex-block></complex-block>
Challenge	: *:	<ul> <li>Daily challenges, linked to prior learning to consolidate previously taught skills and challenge pupils to apply them in varied contexts</li> </ul>	Can gots match the information to the correct, relevant subheading?       Image: Can gots match the information to the correct, relevant subheading?         With the the root?       The frame such the information to the correct, relevant subheading?         With the the stering       The frame such the stering frame such the such that the stering frame such that the stering frame such that the frame such that tha



#### Unit Map and Planning Formula

Our **simple and concise** Unit Map supports staff to have a clear overview of the teaching sequence in Writing. When planning a unit of work, staff at Ambleside complete Unit Maps to **plan out the learning journey** that pupils will embark on before producing a final piece. Staff include *Connect* and *Challenge* sections in each lesson, to recap on prior learning, before moving onto *Rehearse, Deconstruct, Attempt* and *Refine* in turn. Units roughly last around 15 sessions, however this is fluid and depends on the pupils and genre. We believe that pupils need **repetition**, regular opportunities to **consolidate skills** in different contexts and **a clear, coherent teaching sequence** to effectively write at length. This approach is tried and tested with strong impact at Ambleside.

See an Example Unit Map from a Y2 Unit below:

#### **Ambleside's Authors in Training Programme**

#### Unit Map

#### Year 2 ARE – Non-Chronological Report about Parts of a Plant

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week <u>1</u> Rehearse	Connect: Simple sentence editing Rehearse: Learn Text with Actions, Sequence and Spot Features	Connect: Match features of text with examples Rehearse: Treasure Hunt using Knowledge notes	Connect: Match features of text with examples Rehearse: Organising Information under Relevant Subheadings	Connect: Match subheading with statement Rehearse: Picture Plan	Connect: Match Subheading with statement Deconstruct: Sorting Questions and Statements
Week <u>2</u> Deconstruct and Attempt	Connect: Sort Questions and Statements Deconstruct: Using Subordinating Conjunctions	Connect: Extending with subordinating conjunctions Deconstruct: Sorting Present and Past tense verbs	Connect: Sorting Present and Past tense verbs Deconstruct: Using commas in a list	Connect: Using Commas in a List Attempt: Sentence Editing (for SpaG)	Connect: Sorting Questions and Statements Attempt: Model Write <b>as is</b>
Week <u>3</u> Attempt and Refine	Connect: Sentence Editing for SPaG Attempt: Model Write <b>as is</b>	Connect: Using Commas in a List Refine: Sprinkle <u>some</u> Sparkle	Connect: Extending with subordinating conjunctions Refine: Sprinkle <u>some</u> Sparkle	Connect: Using Commas in a List Refine: Assessed Write of Final piece + afternoon group editing	Connect: Sparkle Up- levelling Refine: Assessed Write of Final piece + afternoon group editing

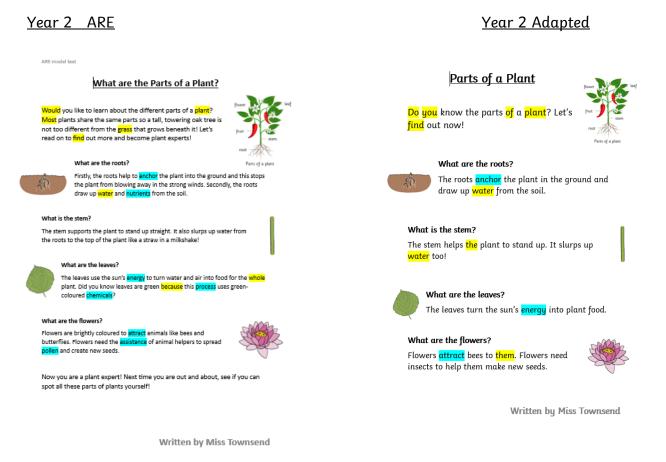
# High Quality Model Texts as a Worked Example

Our Ambleside teachers are authors of the model texts we use to hook the children into every Writing unit. They provide a **worked example** at the start of each unit, which is an **attainable model** for their pupils and shows what could be achieved. Pupils are explicitly taught the features and purpose of the text, to improve their understanding of genre and authorial intent. Tier 2 and 3 Vocabulary are incorporated, highlighted in blue, to broaden pupils' lexicon, along with the year



group's Common Exception Words or Statutory Spellings in yellow. As well as this, elements of age-related punctuation and grammar are woven throughout to explicitly teach grammar and spelling within relevant and specific context. Staff at Ambleside enjoy writing these model texts and this really shines through in the quality of these Worked Examples – texts are engaging, exciting and inspire our pupil to write their own.

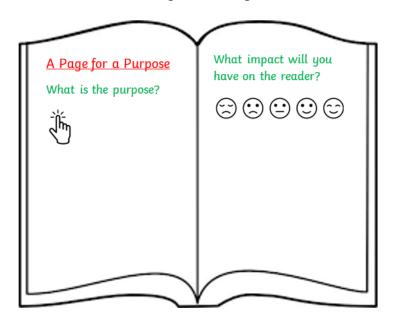
# A Worked Example Age Related and Adapted



# <u>A Page for a Purpose</u>

During the *Rehearse* stage of our Programme, our pupils use 'A Page for a Purpose' at the beginning of each writing unit to draw attention to **authorial intent** and **purpose for writing**. Pupils are explicitly taught to identify the purpose for writing in each model text analysed, and to understand the **impact** intended on the reader. Pupils complete their 'Page for a Purpose' and then can refer back to throughout the unit. Students are guided through an in-depth analysis of the model text, looking at vocabulary with a zoomed-in lens to understand the purpose of the words chosen by the author, and the intended impact on the reader.





# <u>Wider Reading</u>

At Ambleside, we understand that when pupils read widely, they have broader and richer lexicons and a developed sense of authorial intent. During the course of the unit, pupils are exposed to short extracts of other worked examples of text that align with the purpose of the model. Pupils are taught to 'magpie' vocabulary that they feel will have impact in their own writing, and understand how other authors use punctuation, sentence length and word choice to build a particular feeling or mood.

# <u>Sparkle Journals</u>

Our pupils are encouraged to collect key vocabulary and definitions or synonyms in their individual '**Sparkle Journals**'. Journals are kept on pupils' tables for children to add to during class 'Sprinkle some Sparkle' lessons and independently throughout the school day, for example – in Reading lessons. These journals can then be used to add to, magpie from and allow high level of independence from the children, in terms of broadening and enriching their lexicons.

# Knowledge Notes

Knowledge Notes are intrinsic to the success of our pupils knowing the grammar features of each text type. They support our pupils to understand how to write effectively by selecting different authorial features and grammatical forms. Pupils study these in depths at the beginning of each unit and refer to them throughout.



Knowledge Notes include Dual Coding Icons, to support retention and retrieval. Knowledge Notes are adapted for our Priority 20% of pupils, where needed.

#### See exemplar below:



 Year 2: What are the features of a non-chronological report?

 Statement (fall stop) sentence
 Image: Statement (fall stop) sentence

 Question sentence
 Image: Statement (fall stop) sentence

 Question sentence
 Image: Statement (fall stop) sentence

 Present tense
 Image: Statement (fall stop) sentence

 Organise mg writing
 Image: Statement (fall stop) sentence

 Precise selection of wocabulary
 Image: Statement (fall stop) sentence

Adapted Version

# Assessed Writing and ARE Grids

Each year group has carefully constructed, incremental ARE Grids for Year groups 1-6. These have been taken from that National Curriculum expectations and have been cross referenced to the statutory exemplification for Years 2 and 6. End of unit pieces are assessed by staff using the ARE grids to inform next steps. Year group teams have termly allocated time to moderate their judgements and ensure consistency and accuracy of assessments.

Year 3 Exemplar ARE Grid

Year 3 Writing Assessment Age Related Expectations Statements Child:							Ambles	side	Year 3 Writing Assessment Age Related Expectations Statements Child:										
Child:										Date Achieved									
I can use the first letters of a word to check spelling in a dictionary.									3D I can use a range of prefixes correctly in my work (su		- -		1	_					
Genre							_		I can use some suffixes correctly in my work (-by, -gg	88)-	-		-	-			-		
Date Achieved								I can spell many of the year 3 and 4 common exception	on words correctly.										
I can use the forms a or an according to whether the next word begins with a consenant or a vowel.	-				1		T		I can experiment with a wide range of punctuation, a be accurate (e.g. commas, brackets, ellipsis, dashes).										
I can use past and present tense correctly in many pieces of writing.									I can use prepositions, conjunctions and adverts to ex (e.g. before, after, during, in, because, of).										
I can identify subordinate clauses and sometimes use them correctly in my writing.									2 can draft my writing after orally rehearsing what 2 2 can produce work which is organised, imaginative o										
I can use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters are best left unjoined.									structure.	na nas a ciear									
I can develop characters and describe settings, feelings and emotions.									3D+				_						
I can make writing lively and interesting, varying sentence length and usin a range of punctuation for effect.	3								I can spell common homophones and use them correct quite, won and one). I can sometimes punctuate direct speech correctig usi		_	_	_						
3S+																			
I can link ideas and events, using strategies to create flow (e.g. last time, also, after, then, soon, at last, and another thing).									. I can group ideas into paragraphs occurately around	a theme.									
I can evaluate and edit grammar and vocabulary to improve my work.									2 can proof read for spelling and punctuation errors.										
I can evaluate and edit my own writing and suggest improvements.									I can develop and extend ideas logically in sequenced	sentences.									

# <u>Moderation</u>

We pride ourselves in the accuracy of assessment at Ambleside. We prioritise moderation within and between year groups to ensure that children's writing is accurately assessed. We have local authority moderators working within our school



staffing and this ensures that we keep up-to-date with current training and that we remain accurate and consistent. We are encouraged to externally moderate with other schools. Across school, staff attend moderation events run by the local authority.

# Handwriting Statement of Learning

Fluent and legible handwriting is of key importance to the staff and pupils at Ambleside. Our children are proud when they produce beautifully presented writing of a high standard. Its success is due to daily practise and explicit instruction and careful feedback that children receive to improve. (See Ambleside Handwriting Scheme).

# 'Handwriters in Training' Intervention

Our Writing Programme's intervention – 'Handwriters in Training' – supports pupils handwriting, spelling and basic punctuation skills so they become transcriptionally fluent. Staff delivering interventions are supported with coaching from expert leaders, with proven success. Interventions are most often delivered as a 1:1 during the school day, however they are sometimes delivered as a before- or after-school tuition group with no more than 3 pupils to 1 adult. We know that when our pupils are transcriptionally fluent, and 'handwriting is a habit', they can begin to enjoy the creativity of composition.

# Priority 20% Pupils and Adapted Curriculum

The 'Ambleside Authors In Training Programme' offers an adapted curriculum for all of our pupils who need it. Model texts are specifically written to met the learning needs of all groups, focussing on the specific skills pupils need to work on. Where pupils are not transcriptionally fluent, the sequence of a Writing unit is underpinned by explicit teaching of spelling (including Phonics), basic punctuation and handwriting (letter formation).

#### Learning Walls

Learning Walls and displays within classrooms scaffold pupils' learning and celebrate their success in Writing. Each classroom displays the seven stages of learning so that pupils can identify and articulate their personal learning journey in Writing. Pupils' work is celebrated and displayed with pride and key vocabulary is



displayed prominently to support spelling. Teachers refer to the learning walls throughout the lesson sequence to promote pupils' independent use of their environment.

#### Resourcing in Books

Staff at Ambleside have high expectations of pupils' presentation in their books. The learning journey is clear, identified through the use of title strips and colour coding where work is adapted. We know that when resourcing is familiar and clear, pupils can focus on the content of learning rather than processing what they need to do. Pupils take pride in their books and beautiful work is celebrated through Writing rewards, handwriting pens, school displays and positive praise.