

The Write Stuff at Bridge & Patricbourne CEP School

How do we teach 'The Write Stuff' at Bridge School?

The Write Stuff follows a method called 'Sentence Stacking' which engages the children with short, intensive moments of learning that they can then apply independently to their own writing. A single lesson is broken down into three learning chunks, and each learning chunk contains three sections:

1. Initiate – a stimulus to capture the children's imagination and gather vocabulary in pairs and as a class through a process of 'chotting' and 'kind calling out'
2. Model – the teacher models a sentence that applies vocabulary from the first section demonstrating clear writing features and techniques
3. Enable – the children use the model as a guide to write their own independent sentence

Children are also challenged to 'deepen the moment' where they can independently draw upon previously learnt skills and apply them to their writing to expand their ideas.

All writing is taught through 'The Writing Rainbow' which provides pupils with a lens to focus on in order to ensure all writing is effective and engaging for the reader. The Writing Rainbow comprises of the three essential components:

The FANTASTICS acronym represents the nine ideas for writing, focusing and strengthening children's imaginations.

The GRAMMARISTICS cover the national curriculum requirements across all areas of key grammatical knowledge. These are taught in context through the Write Stuff sessions, as well as weekly discrete lessons to ensure learning is secure.

The BOOMTASTICS enable children to enhance their writing through literary devices and techniques, showcasing their personal voice and authorial style.



Pupils organise their Sentence Stacking sessions into the 'Thinking Side' and 'Writing Side' of their English books to capture all of their initial ideas and to enable them to redraft and improve their work consistently throughout the writing process.

Once the Sentence Stacking sessions are completed, the children then have an opportunity to write an independent piece using a similar structure and applying the same Writing Rainbow lenses. Children carefully plan their ideas in sections so that they are confident with where they are taking their reader. Editing and proofreading are encouraged throughout the process in order for the children to develop and improve their drafts.

Write Stuff Terminology

Chotting – a way in which children develop their writing by verbally discussing and sharing vocabulary and phrases with a partner (chatting and jotting)

Kind Calling Out – children share their best ideas with the class in a quick-fire manner to create a large selection of vocabulary and phrases for everyone to choose from

Thinking Side – the left-hand page of the pupils' English book where they can pool their initial ideas

Writing Side – the right-hand page of the pupils' English book where they can draft and edit their sentences

The Writing Rainbow – the three areas of writing to focus on when generating sentences (ideas, grammar and techniques)

Thesaurus Thinking – children look at language within synonym families so that they can judge its intensity and make the best choice according to the purpose of their writing