

English at Dereham Church of England Junior Academy

‘Nurturing a respectful, responsible, aspirational, courageous and creative learning community for all’

In this school, we give our children an English curriculum that:

- Inspires a love of English
- Is ambitious for ALL our pupils
- Is successfully adapted, designed and developed for ALL pupils.

At the bottom of this page, you will find an ‘at a glance’ overview of our English curriculum. Here you will find the different styles of writing that each year group will undertake each half term. Depending the needs of our children, we lengthen or shorten blocks, or move them around accordingly.

At our school, we teach all the different elements of English:

- **Writing**
- **Reading**
- **Spelling**
- **Grammar**
- **Handwriting**
- **Speaking and Listening**

We do this in order to inspire a love of English and help best prepare our children with the skills they will need in the wider world!

Writing at Dereham

As much as possible, we make our writing in English lessons link to the rest of our curriculum topics. This gives the children opportunities to write about things they know and have interest in. Please see the overview below for more details on what your child will be learning each half term.



When we write, we always write for a purpose and link content to real life experiences where possible. We always look at a good example, plan our own and then use shared writing (where we all write as a class together) to help the children form their own ideas.

From here, everyone creates write their own piece of writing in the given style with plenty of opportunities to edit. Afterwards, the children create a 'Writer's Showcase' piece which is their opportunity to show off everything they have learnt!

Reading at Dereham

Reading is incredibly important. We want to inspire a love of reading for our children as well as giving them the skills to be able to understand, question and interpret different types of texts. Each class has a class reader that is engaging, ambitious and exciting! We read these regularly in class.

This year, we have also changed the way we do reading 'lessons'. We now do something called Reading Masters. This involves reading and studying the same text for four sessions each week. Each session focuses on learning and practicing a different comprehension skill. We make sure we link these to our topic or our English work which further supports children's immersion and understanding in a topic of learning.



At Dereham Church of England Junior Academy, we also run a Read Write Inc. phonics intervention programme in Years 3 and 4 to support all our children to become fluent readers. Your child's class teacher will let you know if your child is part of this.

We ask that the children read three times a week as part of their compulsory homework to support the work we do in school. Please see the 'How to Help Your Child with Reading' document for further guidance with this!



Spelling at Dereham

We teach spelling sessions three times a week, where we look closely at different rules and patterns of words in the English language and those words that don't follow them! These correspond with the spellings your child brings home each week. Please see the 'How to Help Your Child with Spelling' document for further guidance with this!

Grammar at Dereham

We teach discrete grammar lessons, once a week. These lessons cover the necessary content appropriate for each year group as well as recapping on previous learning. We also discuss, model and use lots of different grammatical features during other lessons, particularly writing sessions where including a grammatical feature could be the aim of a lesson.



Handwriting at Dereham

We follow a cursive handwriting style and use Letterjoin as a scheme to follow. Further details of this can be found online or through speaking to your child's teacher. We have discrete handwriting lessons where we look at and rehearse letter formation and joins and then aim to transfer these skills into all our writing.



If you have any questions or thoughts, we would love to hear from you!

English Curriculum Overview

Year 3

A1 = Stone Age	A2 = The Shadow Theft	S1 = Chinese New Year	S2 = Dereham's Den	Su1 = World of Animals	Su2 = Vicious Volcanoes
Instructional writing on how to build a fire	Newspaper report on the Magpie thief	Narrative based on Chinese Myths and Legends focussing on resolution and ending	Non Chronologic al report on what makes up a healthy plate	A recount based on a school trip to Africa Alive	Narrative based on an erupting volcano
Narrative focussing on opening and build up	Poetry- Rhyme, Rhythm, Alliteration and repetition	Diary entry- based on an animal competing in the Chinese New Year race	Persuasive writing based on pitching a smoothie to customers	Poems- Calligrams (description, similes, metaphor and personification)	Brochure advertising the school for Year 2 pupils

Year 4

A1 = What have the Romans done for us?	A2 = Treasure Island	S1 = Walk Like An Egyptian	S2 = Come Dine With Me	Su1 = Where The Wild Things Are	Su2 = Water, Water Everywhere
Recount - journalistic	Description	Narrative - suspense	Formal letter - complaint	Narrative - imaginary setting/ adventure	Persuasion - argument
Non-chronol ogical report	Playscript	Poetry - syllable poems	Persuasion - advertising	Poetry - Repeating pattern poems	Explanation

Year 5

A1 = Passport to Europe	A2 = Quick Quills and Positive Potions	S1 = Let Battle Commence	S2 = Food for Thought	Su1 = The Big Bird Watch	Su2 = Space Invaders
Narrative – set in an unfamiliar location	Narrative – magical (based around a child discovering magical powers)	Narrative – Saga (Viking)	Balanced Argument	Non-Chronological report – Bird	Narrative – Science Fiction
Persuasive - Come and Visit Norwich	Journalistic - newspaper	Poetry – Kennings and Free Verse	Persuasive	Narrative - Adventure	Poetry - Performance poetry inc green screen

Year 6

A1 = Brasil	A2 = Macbeth	S1 = Time Travelers	S2 = Chocolate	Su1 = Zoologists	Su2 = All the fun of the Fair
Descriptive Writing - Rainforest description	Diary - Key characters account	Explanation text	Newspaper - Events in the Chocolate Factory	Non-Chronological Report - Report on chosen animal	Play Scripts - Using and performing from scripts
Balanced Argument - Rainforest intervention	Autobiography and Biography - Themselves and Key Character	Narrative - Quest Story (based on Barrowquest)	Narrative (Short Story) - 5th Golden Ticket Winner	Narrative (Setting Description) - based on Vanishing Rainforest	
		Persuasive leaflet for visiting London	Letter - Writing to lower year group about SATs		