

English at Dereham Church of England Junior Academy

In this school, we aspire to 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, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities

At the bottom of this document, you will find an overview of our English curriculum at a glance. Here you will find the different styles of writing that each year group will undertake each half term. However, depending the needs of our children, we will 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



We make as much of our writing in English lessons linked to the rest of our curriculum and our 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 about each half term.

When we write, we always write for a purpose and try to make these linked to real life experiences where possible or something that will spark the children's interest. We always follow the same sequence of learning within each unit of writing.



We begin by looking at an example of the writing type, we plan our own and practice key skills needed. Then, we write! We do lots of shared writing (writing as a whole class) to help gather ideas and vocabulary before we write independently. After that, we edit to make our writing as effective as possible. At the end of the unit, the children complete a 'Writers' 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.

Our way of teaching reading is 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- four 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!

We also regularly use Spelling Shed (an online programme) to practice spellings. Each week, spellings are uploaded and children are expected to practice their spellings for a minimum of 2 x 10/15 minute slots. The children have responded really positively to it so please encourage your child to practice as much as possible!

Grammar at Dereham

We teach discrete grammar lessons, once a week as well as having a retrieval starter focusing on key grammar elements in every writing lesson.

These discrete 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.

English Curriculum Overview

Year 3

Topic	Weeks	Genre	Genre	Genre	In Topic
Stone Age	8	Instructions	Poetry	Narrative - Setting	Recount/ Explanation
In the spotlight	4	Newspaper			Scientific write up
Creativity and Change	6	Narrative	Biography		Explanation
Plant power	4	Poetry	Narrative		Scientific write up
Dereham Past	7	Diary	Narrative		Recipes (instructions)
Geography	5	Non- Cronological	Poetry		TBC

Year 4

Topic	Weeks	Genre	Genre	Genre	In Topic
What did the Romans do for us?	10	Narrative - Time Travel	Newspaper	Diary	Information text/Leaflet
Water, Water, Everywhere!	5	Poetry	Persuasive Article		Explanation Persuasive
Tomb Raiders (Ancient Egypt)	8	Narrative - Adventure	Non- Chronological report	Narrative - Historical	Newspaper Report
Come Dine with Me	3	Letter of complaint (formal)			Explanation - digestion
Animals of Scarning Fen	2	Poetry (Haiku, Tanka and Cinquaine)			Scientific writing
Lightbulb Moments!	3	Biography			Instructions
Peter and the Wolf	4	Narrative	Poetry (The Sound Collector)		?

Year 5

Topic	Weeks	Genre	Genre	In Topic
Space	5	Non-Chron	Narrative - Sci-Fi (Tension)	<i>Log entries - variety of purposes</i>
Positive Potions	2	Poetry		<i>Scientific write ups</i>
Anglo Saxons/Vikings	5	Narrative - Saga	Poetry	<i>TBC</i>
Ancient Greece	5	Balanced Argument	Narrative - Myth (Battle)	<i>Comparison response Journalistic</i>
France	7	Persuasive	Narrative - Adventure (Begin with dilemma)	<i>Recount – diary, Instructions, Evaluation</i>
Fieldwork	2	Settings		<i>TBC</i>
Life Cycles	2	Explanation		<i>Non-chron</i>
Earthquakes and Tsunamis	4	Journalistic		<i>Explanation</i>

Year 6

Topic	Weeks	Genre	Genre	In Topic
Brasil	7	Description	Short Narratives/ Non Chronological Report	Balanced Argument
Hung Drawn and Quartered	7	Quest story	Persuasive letter	Explanations and comparisons
Macbeth	7	Diary	Balanced Argument	Newspaper report
Benin Gone	2	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>
Fossil Hunters	3	Biography	Narrative/Journalistic	Science observations and conclusions
Blood, Sweat and Tears	7	Explanation	<i>TBC</i>	Science data collections and full investigation write ups
Enterprise	7	<i>TBC</i>	<i>TBC</i>	