



Writing expectations

Year 4

Working towards the expected standard			
The pupil can:			
Write for a range of purposes			
Use mostly correctly:	• spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters		
	• capital letters and full stops		
	• question marks when required		
	• exclamation marks appropriately		
	• commas to separate items in a list		
	• apostrophes for missing letters in words		
	• apostrophes to mark singular possession		
	• inverted commas to punctuate direct speech		
Spell most words correctly (Year 2)			
Spell some words correctly (Year 3 & 4)			
Produce legible handwriting			

Working at the expected standard			
The pupil can:			
Plan and write a narrative with a clear structure, setting, character and plot			
Write a non-narrative using simple organisational devices; for example, headings and sub-headings			
Use appropriate nouns and pronouns, within sentences, to avoid repetition and confusion			
Use fronted adverbials separated with a comma; for example, 'Later that day, I went shopping.'			
Use expanded noun phrases with modifying adjectives and prepositional phrases; for example, 'The strict teacher with curly hair.'			
Know standard forms of verb inflections instead of local spoken forms			
Open paragraphs with topic sentences			
Draft and write by organising paragraphs around a theme			
Use a range of sentences with more than one clause			
Write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words and punctuation taught			
Use mostly correctly:	• capital letters for proper nouns		
	• apostrophes for plural possession		
	• inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech		
	• commas after fronted adverbials		
Recognise and spell additional homophones including accept/except, affect/effect, berry/bury, groan/grown, not/knot, mail/male, medal/meddle, plain/plane, rain/rein/reign, whose/who's			
Spell words from the Y3 and 4 list, including those with silent letters consistently			
Spell identified commonly misspelt words from Year 4 word list			



Writing expectations

Year 4

Working at the expected standard (continued)

The pupil can:

Increase legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting using a joined script			
Ensure down strokes of letters are parallel and equally spaced			
Ensure lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch			
Assess the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggest improvements			
Propose changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency			
Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors			

Working at greater depth

The pupil can:

Write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences			
Use subject specific vocabulary within writing			
Consciously use short sentences to speed up action sequences			
Vary choice of pronouns, correctly, to refer to the first, second and third person, both singular and plural			
Use dialogue and reactions from other characters to make characters interesting			
Recognise when a simile may generate more impact than a metaphor and vice versa			
Recognise that a combination of good adjectives, similes and metaphors may help create a powerful image of the characters I am writing about			
Know how to re-order sentences so that they create a greater impact			
Use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis			