Dawn House School: English Writing Progression Map

Engage, Develop, Communicate, Aspire



(D1 - D9) Primary 1:	(D1 - D9) Primary 2:	(D1 - D9) Junior:
Mark Making:	Letter Formation:	Sentence Structure:
Engaging in activities that involve making marks on	Developing correct letter formation, ensuring	Writing sentences that are grammatically correct,
paper, which are the first steps toward writing.	letters are correctly oriented and of an appropriate size.	using appropriate punctuation such as capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation
Fine Motor Skills:	3126.	marks.
Developing control over hand and finger	Writing Simple Sentences:	
movements to hold and manipulate writing tools	Constructing simple sentences using basic grammar	Handwriting:
like pencils and crayons.	and punctuation, such as capital letters, full stops, and spaces between words.	Forming lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another, starting to use some of the
Letter Formation:	and spaces between words.	diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join
Learning to form letters correctly, starting with	Phonics Application:	letters.
simple lines and shapes that form the basis of	Using phonics knowledge to sound out and spell	
letters.	words, particularly common high-frequency words	Spelling:
Name Writing:	and CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words.	Spelling common exception words correctly and using phonics knowledge to spell unfamiliar words.
 Practicing writing their own name, which helps with 	Vocabulary Development:	using phonics knowledge to spell diffamilial words.
recognition of letters and their personal connection	Expanding vocabulary through exposure to new	Punctuation:
to writing.	words and phrases in reading and using them in	Using punctuation accurately, including commas for
Copying Letters and Words:	writing.	lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and possession.
 Copying Letters and Words. Copying letters and simple words from models 	Punctuation:	possession.
provided by the teacher.	Beginning to use basic punctuation marks, including	Expanded Noun Phrases:
	capital letters, full stops, question marks and	Using expanded noun phrases to describe and
Emergent Writing:	exclamation marks.	specify, e.g., the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man
 Writing strings of letters and some known words, even if they are not perfectly spelled. 	Story Sequencing:	in the moon.
even if they are not perfectly spelled.	Writing short narratives by sequencing events in	Conjunctions:
Drawing and Labelling:	logical order, often using familiar story structures.	Using conjunctions such as 'and', 'but', 'because',
Drawing pictures and attempting to label them with		'when', 'if' to link ideas and sentences.
initial sounds or letters.	Handwriting Practice:Developing fine motor skills to improve handwriting	Tense Consistency:
Storytelling:	legibility, speed and comfort.	Maintaining consistency in tense (past, present,
 Telling stories orally and attempting to write them 	3 ,,	future) throughout a piece of writing.
down with help, focusing on the sequence of		
events.		

Use of Writing Tools:

 Becoming familiar with different writing tools and materials, such as pencils, crayons, markers and paper.

Understanding Writing Purpose:

 Recognising that writing can be used to communicate information, share stories, and express ideas.

Pattern Writing:

 Practicing writing patterns (e.g., zigzags, circles) to improve hand-eye coordination and prepare for letter formation.

Writing for Different Purposes:

• Experimenting with writing for various purposes, such as stories, lists, labels, captions, and simple instructions.

Spelling Common Words:

• Learning to spell common high-frequency words and simple regular words accurately.

Using Connectives:

• Beginning to use simple connectives (e.g., 'and', 'but') to join ideas within sentences.

Descriptive Language:

 Using basic descriptive language to add detail to writing, such as adjectives to describe nouns.

Editing and Revising:

 Starting to read their own writing and make simple revisions and corrections with support.

Writing Independently:

 Developing confidence to write independently, using their knowledge of phonics, spelling, and punctuation.

Illustrating Writing:

• Drawing pictures to complement their writing, helping to convey their ideas.

Planning:

• Planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about, including talking through ideas with a partner or adult.

Writing Narratives:

 Writing simple narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real or fictional), using proper sequence and detail.

Non-Fiction Writing:

Writing for different purposes, including writing about real events, writing poetry and writing for different audiences.

Editing:

 Re-reading their writing to check that it makes sense, making simple revisions and corrections as needed.

Descriptions:

 Using adjectives and adverbs to add detail and interest to their writing.

Structure and Organization:

• Organizing writing into coherent sections and/or paragraphs, with a clear beginning, middle and end.

Creativity:

 Using imagination to write stories, poems, and descriptions, demonstrating an understanding of different genres and styles.

Functional Writing Skills:

- Practicing writing short descriptions of people, places, or objects using simple vocabulary and descriptive language.
- Using scaffolding techniques, such as, sentence starters and model texts, to support the writing process and facilitate expression.

(D9 - D11) Key Stage 3:

Composition and Structure:

 Writing narratives with a clear structure, including a beginning, middle, and end, and using paragraphs to organize ideas effectively.

Sentence Construction:

• Constructing a variety of sentences, including simple, compound, and complex sentences, to enhance the flow and clarity of writing.

Use of Descriptive Language:

• Using descriptive language, including adjectives, adverbs and figurative language (e.g., similes and metaphors), to create vivid images for the reader.

Dialogue:

 Incorporating dialogue into narratives, using appropriate punctuation and ensuring it advances the story or develops characters.

Grammar and Punctuation:

 Applying correct grammar and punctuation consistently, including the use of commas, apostrophes and speech marks.

Spelling:

 Spelling common words correctly, including those that follow spelling rules and exceptions and using dictionaries to check more complex words.

Handwriting:

• Developing a legible and consistent handwriting style, ensuring letters are correctly formed and joined.

Planning and Drafting:

 Planning writing by discussing and recording ideas, and drafting and revising texts to improve clarity, coherence and overall quality.

Editing and Proofreading:

 Reviewing and editing work to correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors, and to improve word choice and sentence structure.

Writing for Different Purposes:

• Writing for a variety of purposes and audiences, including narratives, reports, instructions, newspapers, letters explanations and poetry.

(D11 - D13) Key Stage 4:

Composition and Structure:

 Crafting narratives, recounts, reports, explanations, and persuasive texts with sophisticated structures, including introductions, conclusions and cohesive paragraphs.

Sentence Structures:

• Using a variety of sentence structures, including compound and complex sentences, to convey ideas fluently and expressively.

Description:

 Employing descriptive language effectively, including sensory details, imagery, and figurative language, to create atmosphere and evoke emotions in the reader.

Character Development:

 Creating well-developed characters in narratives, using dialogue, actions and thoughts to reveal personality traits and motivations.

Dialogue and Speech:

 Integrating dialogue into writing, with accurate punctuation and dialogue tags, to develop characters and advance plotlines.

Grammar and Punctuation:

 Demonstrating mastery of grammar and punctuation conventions, including the use of advanced punctuation marks and the correct application of grammar rules.

Spelling Accuracy:

Spelling complex words accurately, including those with irregular spellings and homophones and using strategies such as mnemonics and word roots to aid spelling.

Legible Handwriting:

 Maintaining a legible and consistent handwriting style, ensuring clarity and neatness in written work.

Planning and Revision:

• Planning writing effectively, including generating and organizing ideas, and revising and refining drafts to enhance coherence, clarity and impact.

Editing and Proofreading Skills:

• Editing and proofreading written work meticulously to eliminate errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation, and to enhance overall quality.

Creative Expression:

• Experimenting with creative elements in writing, such as imaginative ideas and original phrasing, to engage and entertain the reader.

Use of Literary Devices:

• Incorporating literary devices, such as alliteration, personification, and onomatopoeia, to add interest and depth to writing.

Vocabulary Development:

• Expanding vocabulary by exploring and using new words, including synonyms and antonyms, to add precision and variety to writing.

Peer and Self-Assessment:

• Engaging in peer and self-assessment to provide and receive constructive feedback and using this feedback to make improvements to writing.

Functional Writing Skills:

- Understanding the concept of paragraphs and beginning to use them to organize writing into cohesive units of thought.
- Learning to identify and correct basic errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar with support from teachers or peers
- Developing the ability to organize ideas sequentially within a piece of writing, following a logical order of events or steps.
- Practicing writing short descriptions of people, places, or objects using simple vocabulary and descriptive language.
- Using scaffolding techniques, such as, sentence starters and model texts, to support the writing process and facilitate expression.

Audience Awareness:

Tailoring writing to suit different purposes, genres and audiences.

Creative Expression:

Experimenting with creative techniques and stylistic devices, such as irony, foreshadowing and flashback, to engage and captivate the reader.

Vocabulary Usage:

 Using a rich and varied vocabulary, including synonyms, idiomatic expressions and technical language, to convey precise meanings and enhance writing sophistication.

Reflective and Evaluative Writing:

Reflecting on and evaluating own writing processes and outcomes, identifying strengths and areas for improvement.

Functional Writing Skills:

- Identifying and correcting basic errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.
- Experimenting with informal letter or email formats to communicate with others, focusing on clarity and appropriateness of language.
- Focusing on writing as a means of communication, expressing thoughts and ideas clearly and coherently.

(D13 - D16) Key Stage 5:

Composition and Structure:

• Crafting a variety of texts, including narratives, descriptive writing, reports, arguments and poetry, with increasingly sophisticated structures and organisation.

Sentence Structures:

Using a wide range of sentence structures, including compound-complex sentences, to convey ideas effectively and fluently.

Purposeful Language Choices:

• Making purposeful choices in language use, including vocabulary selection, tone, and register, to suit different genres, audiences and purposes.

Critical Thinking and Analysis:

Developing the ability to analyse texts critically, identify authorial techniques and strategies and evaluate their effectiveness in achieving intended purposes.

Persuasive Writing Techniques:

Employing persuasive writing techniques, such as rhetorical devices, evidence-based arguments and persuasive language, to convince and influence readers.

Character Development and Dialogue:

Creating nuanced characters in narratives, using dialogue, actions and internal monologue to develop character traits and relationships.

Effective Use of Literary Devices:

• Using literary devices, such as symbolism, metaphor, irony and imagery, to enhance the depth and impact of writing.

Grammar and Punctuation:

• Demonstrating understanding of grammar and punctuation conventions, including advanced punctuation marks and complex grammatical structures.

Research and Information Synthesis:

• Conducting research, evaluating sources and synthesizing information from multiple texts to support arguments and convey information accurately.

Editing and Revision Skills:

• Editing and revising written work to improve clarity, coherence and overall effectiveness, incorporating feedback from peers and teachers.

Narrative Voice and Point of View:

• Experimenting with narrative voice and point of view to create unique perspectives and engage readers effectively.

Audience Awareness and Adaptation:

• Understanding audience expectations and adapting writing style, tone, and content to engage and communicate effectively with different audiences.

Functional Writing Skills:

- Recognising and practicing writing for different purposes, such as narrating personal experiences, describing events, or expressing opinions.
- Utilising informal letter and/or email formats to communicate with others, focusing on clarity and appropriateness of language.

(D13+) GCSE:

Analysis and Interpretation:

• Ability to analyse and interpret a variety of texts, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama, identifying key themes, ideas and literary devices.

Structural Awareness:

Understanding the structure of different text types, including essays, articles, narratives, and letters and applying appropriate structures in writing.

Argumentation and Persuasion:

Developing skills in constructing coherent arguments and persuading the reader through effective use of evidence, reasoning and rhetorical devices.

Language and Vocabulary:

• Demonstrating a sophisticated understanding of language, including vocabulary choice, register, tone and figurative language, to convey ideas effectively and create impact.

Grammar and Syntax:

Mastery of grammar and syntax, including complex sentence structures, punctuation rules and grammatical conventions, to ensure clarity and precision in writing.

Creative Writing:

• Ability to produce imaginative and original pieces of writing, such as narratives, descriptions and poems, showcasing creativity, flair and a distinctive voice.

Planning and Organisation:

Proficiency in planning and organizing writing, including generating ideas, outlining main points and structuring arguments or narratives effectively.

Revision and Editing:

• Skill in revising and editing drafts to improve coherence, clarity, and style, as well as to correct errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling.

Textual References:

• Incorporating textual references and quotations from literary texts to support analysis and argumentation, demonstrating engagement with source material.

Research Skills:

Ability to conduct research using a variety of sources, including books, articles, and digital resources and integrate findings into written work with accuracy and relevance.

Critical Thinking:

• Developing critical thinking skills to evaluate and critique texts, arguments, and ideas, and present well-reasoned opinions supported by evidence.

Audience Awareness:

• Understanding the needs, interests, and perspectives of different audiences and adapting writing style, tone and content accordingly to engage and persuade effectively.

Independent Writing:

• Demonstrating independence in writing tasks, including generating ideas, planning, drafting and revising work with minimal support or guidance.

Exam Technique:

• Familiarity with exam formats, question types, and assessment criteria and ability to apply effective exam techniques to maximize performance in timed assessments.