

What does writing at St. Mark's look like?

In a typical 6-week half term there should be 2 units of written work (fiction/non-fiction/poetry) and 1 independent writing task.

Within a Writing Unit

Units of writing at St. Marks will usually take two/ three weeks. They will usually follow a sequence.

At the start of the unit there will be an immersive experience lesson – this is where children will have a hands-on experience usually linked to what they will be writing about.

This will be followed by 2/3 lessons based on a text. Children will read the texts and identify features of that text. They will compare a number of different texts looking at the features and look at examples of a WAGOLL (what a good one looks like). They will complete a comprehension activity based on these texts to further develop understanding using VIPERS.

There will then be 1/2 lessons based on the grammatical features for that particular piece of writing based on the Year Group Expectations (see progression document).

This will be followed by a series of lessons which have much more of a writing focus using a combination of teacher led/ independent writing.

The teacher led sessions (approx. 3) will use features from the Write Stuff model (chotting, modelling and sentence stacking) for parts of writing that need the most scaffolding eg. beginning, dilemma and ending.

In between the teacher led sessions there will be more focus on children writing independently, using the writing rainbow where appropriate and discussing vocabulary.

There will be opportunities for children to edit their work and deepen the moment. Our Something to check, something to change, something to add framework will be used at this point.