

English Curriculum Overview - Year 1

		Unit	Details
Autumn One	Story structure & language - Give writing a go! Description of characters - simple sentence structure		As the pupils settle into Year 1, they learn the journey story of Maisie Mouse with the focus of giving writing a go, building on their simple sentences in Reception, by orally composing, rehearsing and sequencing sentences to form a short narrative. With FFT phonics continuing in Year 1, pupils use their developing phonic knowledge to spell words and are introduced to the simple punctuation of finger spaces. Handwriting focuses on writing on lines and starting letters in the correct place. At our harvest assembly, the pupils learn and perform a poem. In the second part of the Autumn term, learning a meeting story about some penguins who get lost, gives the pupils an opportunity to develop these skills further and re-reading their sentences to check they make sense. This leads into the Christmas performance, alongside a fact file about reindeers, where the pupils learn to chunk related sentences. To conclude each unit, the pupils write an independent piece of writing to demonstrate the skills and knowledge acquired.
Autumn Two			
Spring One	Description of setting - Rainbow writing Openings & Endings - Capital Letters		Returning after the Christmas break, pupils learn about a lonely cloud who makes a wish. We continue to orally rehearse and sequence sentences, re-reading them to check sure they make sense but our focus moves on to recognising when a sentence ends and using a full stop to signify this. As FFT phonics continues, pupils use their new phonetic knowledge to spell unfamiliar words and they learn more common exception words. Handwriting focuses on correct letter formation. In our class assembly, we perform our story and a weather poem. Pupils start to see how performances may change depending on the audience, as we later perform an Easter poem at the Church. Heading towards Easter, pupils learn a version of a traditional tale, as we learn about the basic structure of a story, with a focus on openings and endings. Leading on from this we innovate instructions on how to trap a wolf, using time connectives to sequence and order. To conclude each unit, pupils write an independent piece of writing to demonstrate the skills and knowledge acquired.
Spring Two			
Summer One	Characterisation - Coordinating conjunctions Developing suspense - using adjectives		After Easter pupils learn the classic story of a young boy who loses his precious toy dog, as they understand the structure of a losing tale, enabling them to write one of their own. Their final text is about a girl who finds a secret garden and how it changes over time. Pupils look at how the words they chose make the reader feel different emotions. To link in with Science and their trip to Seaton Delaval Hall, they also create explanation texts to show how plants grow. Throughout the term pupils continue to orally rehearse and sequence sentences, re-reading them to check they make sense, but their focus moves on to joining sentences with conjunctions and starting to look at exciting vocabulary to add description. Their toolkit encourages pupils to consistently remember to use finger spaces, full stops and capital letters, alongside correctly forming letters of an appropriate size. As the FFT phonics programme comes to an end, pupils should be spelling words with the 40+ phonemes they have been taught, as well as many common exception words.
Summer Two			