Writing Curriculum Topic Overview 2025-2026

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS	Early learning goal – Writing - Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.					
Year 1	**Naughty Bus** ***The text provides opportunities for discussions around behavioural expectations. As the Naughty Bus is a typical London double-decker bus, links could also be made to getting to know London or any local area.*** **Main Outcome:** **Non-fiction (letters)** **Narrative** **Key Skills:** ***Use finger spaces between words*** ***Use capital letters & full stops to mark sentences. Use noun phrases which add detail to description***	**The Odd Egg** ***Children will engage with a host of endearing animal characters to help them understand the themes woven throughout.*** **Main Outcome:** **Egg Spotter's Guide (Non-Fiction)** **Key Skills:** ***Use coordinating conjunctions to link two main ideas.*** ***Use subordinating conjunctions in the middle of sentences.*** ***Use noun phrases.***	**Beegu** ***This is a heart-warming tale of an alien ----– Beegu -– who crash lands on earth and finds refuge and friendship with the children in a school playground.*** **Main Outcome:** **Narrative** **Key Skills:** ***Use noun phrases which add detail to description.*** ***Use question marks.***	**Iggy Peck Architect** ***Meet Iggy Peck—creative, independent, and not afraid to express himself! Iggy has one passion: building. His parents are proud of his fabulous creations, though they're sometimes surprised by his materials!*** **Main Outcome:** **Fact file** **Key Skills:** ***Use finger spaces between words*** ***Use capital letters & full stops to mark sentences. Use noun phrases which add detail to description*** ***Use past and present tense correctly.*** ***Literacy Week*** ***(Here we are by Oliver Jeffers*** ***Theme: Coming together & community)***	**Astro Girl *** ***This book has a strong narrative and a message about following your dreams. The main character is a girl with an accomplished working mother and father who is the main caregiver at home.*** **Main Outcome:** **Labels, captions, fact-files** **Key Skills:** ***Use bullet points***	**Send for a Super Hero** ***This is a fun take on the super-hero, comic genre which will engage children with its colourful style and characters. The fast-paced story provides an ideal opportunity to discuss the attributes of a hero and everyday heroes in our communities*** **Main Outcome:** **Wanted posters, character descriptions, narrative** **Key Skills:** ***Use coordinating conjunctions to link two main ideas.*** ***Use noun phrases which add detail to description.*** ***Use the progressive form for verbs***

Year 2	**The Goldilocks Project** This is a wonderful, award-winning sequel to the classic fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears. This time it is Baby Bear – all grown up now – who is lost in the city and seeks refuge in a trendy, cosmopolitan home. Whose home could it be? This text provides an opportunity to positively imagine what Goldilocks becomes as an adult. **Main Outcome:** **Narrative (Fantasy-sequel)** **Key Skills:** **Noun phrases – using a variety of vocabulary to add interest**	**Jim and the Beanstalk** *A sequel to the original tale. Jim meets a sad and aging giant who complains that some boy once climbed up the beanstalk and robbed his father. Jim tries to improve the giant's lot.* **Main Outcome:** **Informal letter** **Key Skills:** **Past tense verbs** **Exclamations**	**Last Stop on Market Street*** *What happens if we look at the world in a different way? This question is explored sensitively as we ride with CJ and his Nana on their weekly bus journey through the city. From disappointment and dissatisfaction to recognition and gratitude, Nana opens CJ's eyes to the beauty all around him with her thoughtful observations and insights. Centring on the wonders of the local community, this book by award-winning duo Matt de la Peña and Christian Robinson will be a great way to open discussions around the diversity of children's own local environments.* **Main Outcome:** **Own version narrative** **Key skills:** **Adverbs** **A range of sentence openers**	**The Great Fire of London** *The richly detailed illustrations and text work effectively together to portray 17th century London and the changes it went through during this turbulent time. The book highlights how people helped each other through the fire as well as how London and the fire service evolved afterwards.* **Main Outcome:** **Information Booklet** **Key Skills:** **Organising writing into paragraphs** ***Literacy Week*** ***(Here we are by Oliver Jeffers*** ***Theme: Coming together & community)***	**A Walk in London** This is a fantastic book to explore London with children and open their eyes to the various landmarks in the capital. **Main Outcome:** **A Walk in…' guidebook** **Key Skills:** **Using questions and commands**	**We are Water Protectors*** This inspirational book tells the story of the Dakota Access Pipeline protests from the point of view of a girl who joins the protests in order to protect the community's water supply. The story highlights the environmental effects of corrosive, unchecked greed and the importance of people power and protest. **Main Outcome:** **Own version adventure narrative** **Key Skills:** **Apostrophes for contraction and possession**
Year 3	**The Last Garden*** *Inspired by true events in Syria, this touching story will open up conversations around the impact of war and migration. Mirroring themes in the book, the story opens up a safe space to explore how people deal with conflict and what happens when people are forced to leave. This is ultimately a story of hope and healing.*	**Cinderella of the Nile*** *With clear links to ancient Greece and ancient Egypt, children will discover how one story can have many iterations around the world and throughout history. Alongside historical themes, the book could be used as a platform for discussions around human rights, enslavement and justice.* **Main Outcome:** **Own version (traditional tale)**	**The Day I Swapped My Dad For a Goldfish** *This story has a clear cyclical structure which will form the basis for children's own writing. The mysterious and slightly sinister nature of the illustrations will pique children's interest and provide the starting point for discussions around decision-making and consequences.*	**The Tear Thief** *Children will be captivated by the magical concept of how we express our feelings and there are obvious links to the PSHE curriculum where children will be able to discuss their emotions and how to deal with them.* **Main Outcome:** **Newspaper article** **Key Skills:**	**The Heart and the Bottle** *Once there was a girl whose life was filled with wonder at the world around her. Then one day something happened that made the girl take her heart and put it in a safe place. However, after that it seemed that the world was emptier than before. But would she know how to get her heart back?* **Main Outcome;** **Narrative** **Key Skills:**	**Jim: A Cautionary Tale** *Jim: who ran away from his Nurse and was eaten by a Lion! First published in 1907, Belloc's wickedly funny poem describing the sad end of Jim is now fabulously illustrated by Mini Grey for this extra-special new edition.* **Main Outcome:** **Narrative poem** **Key Skills:**

	Main Outcome: Setting descriptions, advertisement/poster, retelling, instructional flyer, social media updates, dialogue ***Key Skills:*** **Organise writing into paragraphs sometimes correctly.** **Noun Phrases**	**Key Skills:** ***Inverted commas for speech.***	**Main Outcome: Script for a pilot TV show** **Key Skills:** ***Use adverbs to express time, place and cause.*** ***Use conjunctions to express time, place and cause.***	***Use tenses correctly*** ***Literacy Week*** ***(Here we are by Oliver Jeffers*** ***Theme: Coming together & community)***	**First and third person used correctly.**	**Use of noun phrases and adverbs**
Year 4	**Escape from Pompeii** *This text engages children with the genre of historical fiction and links with topics of ancient Rome and natural disasters. Set against the backdrop of the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79, it helps bring the topic to life and provides children with a rich background knowledge of a significant historical period.* **Main Outcome: Historical stories, Newspaper Report** **Key Skills:** **Use of paragraphs** **Question marks and exclamations**	**Granny Came Here on the Empire Windrush*** *This story is essential for children to learn about Black British history, particularly the influence of Black historical figures such as Winifred Atwell and Mary Seacole, and the stories of those who emigrated to Britain on the Empire Windrush.* **Main Outcome: Factual report on the Windrush Generation** **Key Skills:** **Accurate verb tenses** **Adverbials** **Pronouns to avoid repetition**	**The Iron Man** *The narrative lends itself to discussion around standing up for what is right and not judging a book by its cover. The themes raised in the book help with developing empathy.* **Main Outcome: Mystery Narrative** **Key Skills:** **Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme.** **Direct speech- full punctuation accurate (comma after clause, punctuation within inverted commas).**	**Cloud Tea Monkeys*** *This is a legend set in another culture in the centuries-old past but with close links to fair-trade and the food industry. The strong female protagonist fights to overcome traditional ideals in the name of family and eventual triumph.* **Main Outcome: Non-Chronological Report** **Key Skills:** ***Extended noun phrases*** ***Noun phrases, adverbs and adjectives used in combination to create interest. Adjectives modified for emphasis*** ***Use powerful verbs.***	**The Story of Tutankhamun*** *Including colourful illustrations, maps, inventories and graphic novel storyboards, the book presents a highly engaging way for children to develop historical skills and weave historical knowledge into their writing.* **Main Outcome: Biography of Tutankhamun** **Key Skills:** **Commas for fronted adverbials** **Commas for clauses**	**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** **Main Outcome:** **Narrative set in another world** **Key Skills:** **Apostrophes to mark plural possession. Use pronouns to avoid repetition (appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition)**

	Jabberwocky *The poem presents an opening for children to explore the fantastical world of Alice and her adventures in Wonderland. Including weird and wonderful characters and a host of completely nonsense vocabulary there will be fun opportunities for language acquisition and comprehension, as well for performance poetry.* **Main Outcome; Nonsense and narrative poetry** **Extended noun phrases Noun phrases, adverbs and adjectives used in combination to create interest.**		***Literacy Week*** ***(Here we are by Oliver Jeffers*** ***Theme: Coming together & community)***		**Tar Beach*** *This book weaves together fiction, autobiography and allegory to create a thought-provoking tale following themes of freedom, equality and following your dreams.* **Main Outcome:** **Play script** **Key Skills:** **Tense accurate and consistent- ONGOING SKILL**	
Year 5	**The man who walked between the two towers.** ***(ambition and desire)*** *This tale of daring, written in lyrical prose by Mordecai Gerstein is based on the true exploits of daredevil Philippe Petit. Children will be enthralled by the poetic language used to portray this magical feat, as well as by the detailed illustrations – including two foldout spreads of the New York skyline.* **Main Outcome:** **Biography** **Information writing (Wikipedia page)** **Key Skills:** ***Mixture of simple, compound and complex sentences in pieces. Using and understanding a range of subordinate and main clauses and the punctuation that separates them.***	**Children of the Benin Kingdom*** *This novel perfectly complements historical learning on the Kingdom of Benin. Featuring a strong female protagonist, the book opens up the chance to discuss identity, heritage and belonging. Children will also explore the meanings and pronunciations of significant names and items from West Africa.* **Main Outcome: non Chronological Report** **Key Skills:** ***Paragraphs around a main sentence. Use of adverbials of time, place and number to link ideas across paragraphs.***	**The Lost Happy Endings** *This lyrical picture book by one-time poet laureate Carol-Ann Duffy is rich with literary language and, although a modern-day fairy tale, is sophisticated enough for children in UKS2. The use of literary language is stunning and accessible for children due to the clear story-arc and the fact that this is a picture book where much of the story is expressed through illustration.* **Main Outcomes: Prequel- alternative perspective** **Key Skills:** ***Parenthesis punctuated by commas, dashes or brackets.*** ***Using direct AND reported speech***	**The Tempest** *This is a play script version of one of Shakespeare's most classic stories, including some original language and meter which will inspire children to go on and read further of the bard's plays on their own. A vibrant and enchanting story with strong themes of betrayal and desire, this will provide a good starting point for children to share their thoughts on power and the right ways to use it.* **Main Outcomes: Play script** **Key Skills:** ***Parenthesis punctuated by commas, dashes or brackets.*** ***Using direct AND reported speech***	**High Rise Mystery *** *As an advocate for diverse representation in children's literature, the author's cast of racially diverse characters and contemporary writing style will engage children with the murder-mystery genre and encourage them to read further books in the series .* **Main Outcome: Extended Narrative** **Key skills:** ***Adverbs and noun phrases to describe*** ***Use of speech- characterisation***	**Hidden Figures*** *This important text by Margot Lee Shetterly is the previously untold story of four African-American women, all with exceptional maths skills, who helped America win the Space Race. This book is important for black representation and themes of empowerment and feminism are strongly woven throughout.* **Main Outcome: Memoir for one of the women** **Key skills:** ***Expanded phrases and clauses*** ***Prepositional phrases added to noun phrases to expand and develop ideas***

	Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief *This book provides an opportunity to teach classic Greek mythology through a modern story which will grip children with its sense of adventure, relatable characters and fast-paced plot.* **Main Outcome: Own version mythical narrative** **Key skills:** **Inverted commas for speech**		***Literacy Week*** ***(Here we are by Oliver Jeffers*** ***Theme: Coming together & community)***			**The Dreadful Menace- Film unit** *A poetry unit focusing on The Dreadful Menace (anon) which was used in the advert for the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics.* **Main outcome: Analysing the poem and writing own verses**
Year 6	**The Arrival** *This wordless picture book is a silent tribute to every displaced person, migrant or refugee who has made a journey. Children will develop empathy for those facing difficult, life-changing circumstances an explore themes such as migration, relationships, community and belonging* **Main Outcomes:** longer story built around a man's journey to another country **Letter writing/ Diary entries** **Key Skills:** ***Pronouns to avoid repetition*** ***Characterisation through emotive writing***	**The Windrush Child*** *This poignant story, written by influential poet Benjamin Zephaniah, delves into the history of the Windrush generation. Through studying the text, children will engage with the experiences of those who left behind their homes in the Caribbean and arrived on the shores of Britain after the Second World War.* **Main Outcomes:** **Persuasive pitch to the local council** **Key Skills:** ***Develop characters through action, description and dialogue*** ***Use fronted adverbials to show how/when an event occurs,*** ***Use expanded noun phrases to add detail & description*** ***Use subordinate clauses to add detail or context*** ***nouns & pronouns for clarity and cohesion***	**Can we Save the Tiger** *As a starting point for discussing conservation and protection, children will learn important environmental messages and understand the need to raise awareness of how to look after what we have left.* **Main Outcomes: Persuasive speech, balanced argument** **Key Skills:** ***Use imperative and modal verbs to convey urgency, Use adverbials to convey sense of certainty*** ***Use short sentences for emphasis*** ***Use of the subjunctive form for formal structure*** ***Choosing vocabulary and grammatical structures for the correct level of formality.***	**Romeo and Juliet** *The most well-known of Shakespeare's stories, Rome and Juliet covers themes of love, rivalry and tragedy, this will be a good starting point for children to share their opinions on loyalty and betrayal and whether it is always the best thing to follow your heart.* **Main Outcomes: Diary/ Letter** **Key Skills:** ***Choosing vocabulary and grammatical structures for the correct level of formality.*** ***Managing shifts between levels of formality***	**Beowulf** *This is a key text in Anglo-Saxon literature, which delves into the historical period with detail and provides children with a rich background knowledge of the time.* **Main Outcomes:** **Suspense story/** **Legend missing chapter** **Key Skills:** ***Creating atmosphere (metaphors, similes, description, short sentences etc.)***	**Some Places More than Others*** *This rich and inspiring novel provides the context for children to navigate their own personal journey of discovery, mirroring the experiences of the main character as she strives to understand her roots. Presented as a transition sequence of learning, it will help children explore the unique qualities that make them who they are as they move on to secondary school. Significant links are made to black history through exploration of key figures from Harlem and the story is told from the perspective of a powerful female protagonist.* **Main Outcomes:** **Poetry** **Key Skills:** ***Noun phrase*** ***Adverbs***

	The Boy in the Tower* *Dealing with themes such as isolation, depression and loneliness, the book provides a relatable context and a safe space within which to explore these concepts with children. With modern day links to The Day of the Triffids, Polly Ho-Yen has created an engaging, dystopian narrative through which children will develop their skills of inference and deduction.* **Main Outcomes: Journalistic writing** **Key Skills:** ***Direct and reported speech*** ***Choosing vocabulary and grammatical structures for the correct level of formality.*** ***use a range of devices to build cohesion*** ***Use subordinating conjunctions in varied positions*** ***Use expanded noun phrases to inform*** ***Use relative clauses to add further detail*** ***Begin to use passive voice to remain formal or detached.*** ***Begin to use colons to link related clauses.***	***Literacy Week*** ***(Here we are by Oliver Jeffers*** ***Theme: Coming together & community)***	**Rain Player *** *This beautiful picture book makes direct links with the history of the Mayan civilisation as the story cleverly weaves aspects of the ancient customs and beliefs through the narrative. Children will learn about Mayan culture as it was then and the ways in which we still see influences around us today.* **Main Outcomes:** **Analytical essay about The Maya** **Key Skills:** ***Paragraphing*** ***Formal writing***