Writing – Long-Term Planning

At North Star, we adopt the CUSP (Curriculum with Unity Schools Partnership) writing curriculum. As children progress through our schools, they read, analyse and write a range of text genres, from a variety of viewpoints to broaden their horizons and develop their understanding of the world around them.

The knowledge, understanding and skills taught in each genre are sequenced in small steps, building up over time to develop children's understanding of audience and purpose, as well as their grammatical and punctuation understanding so that they can write with increasing effectiveness.

The table below shows, for the different phases of the primary nation curriculum (KS1 – yr 1 and 2; LKS2 – yr 3 and 4; UKS2 – yr 5 and 6), how the units of writing relate and build on one another from year to year. The units are not sequenced, so do not necessarily reflect when in each academic year a genre will be studied and, in any event, genres are studied twice in an academic year to allow children to revisit and apply taught content with greater proficiency and independence.

Due to the mixed-age nature of our classes, children might not study the genres in the exact order laid out below. Teachers and leaders carefully plan to ensure that the carefully-mapped connections are used to ensure children receive a rich diet of writing and that their knowledge and understanding is built in small steps throughout their Primary years and their time in our schools. Where the total number of weeks of study is not a full academic year, teachers use additional weeks flexibly to provide enrichment opportunities, support with more challenging concepts, or to undertake assessments.

Unsequenced Writing Long-Term Plan

	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6	Unit 7	Unit 8	
KS1	Setting descriptions 2 x 2 weeks	Stories with familiar settings 2 x 3 weeks	Instructional writing 2 x 2 weeks	Recount from personal experience 2 x 2 weeks	Informal letters 2 x 2 weeks	Poetry: Playing with language 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry – pattern and rhyme 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry on a theme (nature) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	28 weeks
	Character descriptions 2 x 2 weeks	Simple retelling of a narrative 2 x 3 weeks	Stories from other cultures 2 x 3 weeks	Recount from personal experience 2 x 2 weeks	Non-chronological reports 2 x 3 weeks	Formal invitations 2 x 2 weeks	Poems developing vocabulary 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry on a theme (humorous) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
LKS2	First person narrative descriptions 2 x 2 weeks	Third person narrative (animal stories) 2 x 3 weeks	Dialogue through narrative (historical stories) 2 x 3 weeks	Formal letters to complain 2 x 2 weeks	Non-chronological reports 2 x 3 weeks	Advanced instructional writing 2 x 2 weeks	Performance poetry – including poetry from other cultures 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry on a theme (emotions) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
	First person diary entries (imaginative) 2 x 2 weeks	Third person adventure stories 2 x 3 weeks	Stories from other cultures 2 x 3 weeks	News reports 2 x 2 weeks	Persuasive writing (adverts) 2 x 2 weeks	Explanatory texts 2 x 2 weeks	Critical analysis of a narrative poem 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poems which explore form 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
UKS2	Third person stories set in another culture 2 x 3 weeks	Playscripts (Shakespeare retelling) 2 x 2 weeks	Dialogue in narrative (first person myths and legends) 2 x 3 weeks	Balanced argument 2 x 2 weeks	Biography 2 x 3 weeks	Formal letters of application 2 x 2 weeks	Poems that use word play 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poems which explore form 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
	First person stories with a moral 2 x 2 weeks	Extended third person narrative (adventure stories) 2 x 3 weeks	News reports 2 x 2 weeks	Explanatory texts 2 x 2 weeks	Autobiography 2 x 2 weeks	Discursive writing and speeches 2 x 2 weeks	Shakespeare's sonnets 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poems that create images and explore vocabulary (war poetry) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	30 weeks