



Hillcross Primary School's
Parent and Carer's guide

The Year 4 Writer

In year 4 your child will continue to have opportunities to write for a range of real purposes and audiences as part of their work across the curriculum. These purposes and audiences should support the decisions about the form the writing should take (such as a narrative, an explanation or a description).

Your child will consolidate their understanding, through being shown, the skills and processes that are essential for writing: that is, thinking aloud to explore and collect ideas, drafting, and re-reading to check their meaning is clear. Year 4 children will be taught to monitor whether their own and other's writing makes sense in the same way that they monitor their reading.

Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

By the end of year 4, children should be able to:

- ✓ Extend the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, (when, if, because, although, broadly)
- ✓ Use the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense
- ✓ Choose nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- ✓ Use noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases e.g. 'the teacher' expanded to 'the strict maths teacher with curly hair'
- ✓ Use conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause (sequence events)
- ✓ Use fronted adverbials
- ✓ Use commas after fronted adverbials
- ✓ Indicate possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns
- ✓ Use and punctuate direct speech
- ✓ Use Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms (for example, we were instead of we was, or I did instead of I done)
- ✓ Understand determiners - reference for a noun or noun group, (or example a, the, every)

Composition

When planning, drafting and writing, year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Plan writing by discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write. This will help children to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar
- ✓ Plan writing by discussing and recording ideas
- ✓ Draft and write by composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures



- ✓ Draft and write by organizing paragraphs around a theme
- ✓ Sequence events clearly and show how one event leads to another using appropriate conjunctions and adverbials
- ✓ Imitate authorial techniques gathered from reading

When writing, year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Write in a range of genres/forms, taking account of different audiences and purposes

When writing fiction, year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Include descriptive detail and make writing more vivid using specific nouns, adjectives, expanded noun phrases and figurative language including both simile and metaphor e.g. 'The tropical forest with its dense canopy...', '...eyes of fire...'
- ✓ Develop mood and atmosphere using a range of vocabulary, including dialogue between characters
- ✓ Include character descriptions designed to provoke a particular feeling in the reader e.g. sympathy or dislike
- ✓ Draft and write in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot, taking into account audiences and purposes
- ✓ Imitate poetic structures studied
- ✓ Write in a range of genre/forms, taking account of different audiences and purposes

When writing non-fiction, year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Draft and write in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices (for example, headings and sub-headings)
- ✓ Use techniques to get the reader on side i.e. addresses them to engage or influence

When editing and improving their writing, year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Evaluate and edit by assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements
- ✓ Evaluate and edit by proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences
- ✓ Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
- ✓ Evaluate the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggest improvements

When presenting and performing their work, year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear

Handwriting – year 4 children should be able to:

- ✓ Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by using the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined
- ✓ Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by increasing the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting

Glossary of terms

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/244216/English_Glossary.pdf

