

How do we teach writing at Dame Janet Primary Academy?



At Dame Janet Primary Academy, children in Years 1-6 are taught to write through the 3 Is:

IMMERSION

IMITATION

INNOVATION

Teachers plan well-structured and progressively sequenced lessons which develop children as readers and writers. Children are taught to write with technical accuracy whilst innovating their own writing, pulling inspiration from high-quality texts.



IMMERSION IN THE TEXT

EXPLORE, UNDERSTAND, ENJOY, PLAY WITH THEMES

In the first stage of a writing unit, children explore the key text without a genre-specific study. Using the text as a stimulus, children will enjoy the text in the way it was intended by the author. Children will write for a range of purposes and audiences while they explore the text and its key themes.



IMMERSION AND IMITATION OF GENRE

DISSECT, ANNOTATE, EXPLORE STRUCTURES, EXPERIMENT

In the next stage of the writing unit, children will be immersed in the genre: from a deeper understanding of the text, children will begin to focus on the genre of the text and other extracts and examples which complement the genre. Children will explore the key features of the genre and begin exploring their use.

Imitation of genre: With a greater understanding of the text, and a technical understanding of the genre, children use creative adaptation to develop their writing (leapfrogging from structures and ideas which already exist, in order to explore writing within the safety net of existing structures).



INNOVATION

BUILD, PLAN, EDIT, CREATE

In the final stage of a writing unit, children work from a foundation of enjoyment and use the work they have already produced across the unit to begin to draw inspiration from ideas already explored; from this, children will innovate their own text. This will culminate in their final 'innovation' (independent piece of writing).

PUBLISH

Children are taught to edit according to their own areas of development and amend to publish the best version of their writing. Published pieces will be photocopied/ printed in colour and used as a celebration of success within the learning environment and around the school.

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Suggested time frames

3-week unit:

Immersion in text: 4 days

Immersion and imitation of genre: 7 days

Innovation: 4 days

2-week unit (e.g. non-fiction)

Immersion in text: 3 days

Immersion and imitation of genre: 4 days

Innovation: 3 days