

# The Write Stuff

A new writing approach in St Pauls Catholic Primary School Plymouth.

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The Write Stuff is based on two guiding principles: firstly, teaching sequences that slide between experience days and sentence stacking lessons. The sentence stacking lessons are broken into bite-sized chunks that have modelling at the heart of them. Secondly, sentences are taught under the structural framework of The Writing Rainbow and teachers prepare children for writing by modelling for the ideas, grammar or techniques of writing.

We implemented this writing approach at St Paul's in September. All teaching staff were fully trained on it over 6 staff cpd sessions. The teachers were further supported by following the live lessons which had a clear model of the approach, and the pace needed, from Jane Considine. This training taught us all we needed to implement The Write Stuff into our school. The great thing about this approach is that it caters for all ages and there is separate planning and training for EYFS.

We have seen a massive improvement in the vocabulary that the children are using and this is evident from reception class to year 6. The writing in our reception class has improved significantly, both the quality and the quantity. Across the school, we are seeing stronger independent writing building on the teacher modelling which is consistently modelled in the lead up to the independent tasks. Furthermore the amount of writing that the children are producing in a lesson has largely improved. We still have areas where we need to grow and

improve and we are currently focusing on challenging our GD children and supporting our WT children within this approach.



## Key benefits:

1. Improvements in the quality of sentence structure
2. Pupils understand how to apply sentence scaffolds to their independent writing.
3. Standards improve because many worked experiences are provided over the year that deliver on listed aspects
4. Pupils have a clear view of what high quality writing looks like.
5. Pupils know how to improve their writing and make it more focused.
6. Children have a concept of how to complete a piece of writing due to narrative maps and non-fiction shapes.
7. Step sentences ensure that they have a wealth of ideas for cohesion.

All teachers are on board with the approach and they are all amazed by the transformation of writing within their classroom. The children love the structure the approach provides and are excelling as a result. We are 100% behind this fantastic new approach to writing.