

English Curriculum Overview Year 2



The teaching of English at The Hills Academy covers reading (including word reading and comprehension) and writing (including spellings, grammar, handwriting and composition).

Talk for Writing implementation – the Talk for Writing approach is being embedded into writing lessons from September 2023 beginning in Year 2 and EYFS. The Talk for Writing approach will then be built into other year groups in the following academic years.

Teaching spellings: Year 2-6 follow the No Nonsense Spelling overview to teach spelling patterns on a rotation of 2 spelling starters in English lesson's one week and 3 spelling starters in English lesson's the next week. National Curriculum spellings including common exception words and high frequency words are also taught regularly in English lessons.

Teaching guided reading: Year 1 have weekly guided reading lessons using VIPERS strands (Vocabulary, Infer, Predict, Explain, Retrieve, Sequence). Year 2 – 6 have guided reading lessons weekly in Autumn 1 and then fortnightly from Autumn 2 using VIPERS strands, alternating with reading skills discussion lessons.

Children working below age-related expectations – teachers should check children's gaps in previous year group's learning and ensure that these targets are met before children begin working on their current year group targets e.g., if a Year 2 child is not yet secure on Year 1 writing targets, they should focus on those targets first before attempting Year 2 targets.

Adapting weeks to suit each academic year – the number of weeks in each academic year may slightly change (e.g. autumn term may have 15 weeks instead of 14 weeks in some academic years). Class teachers should adapt the overviews accordingly depending on the length of each term and discuss and agree this with the English coordinator or SLT members if needed.

Genres and books used may be adapted throughout the year to suit changes in planning made by teachers. Please ensure the English coordinator is made aware of any changes.



Year 2: Spring Term Writing

Weeks 1-4

Talk for Writing

Non-Fiction

Genre/Plot: Persuasive Leaflet

Hooks and books:

- The Story of Pirate Tom
- Leaflet examples
- Universal Studios

Cold task: Children have a go at writing a letter to persuade Mrs Whitehead to buy an item that they would like to have in school/to have a famous visitor in/change the uniform etc.

Hot task: Children write a persuasive leaflet to persuade people to visit their theme park.

Weeks 5-7

Talk for Writing

Narrative

Genre/Plot: Journey Tale

Hooks and books:

- The Way Back Home (Literacy Shed video)
- The Papaya that Spoke (Pie Corbett T4W)
- Hansel and Gretel

Cold task: Children have a go at writing a journey story after watching 'The Way Back Home'.

Hot task: Children write a journey tale choosing their own characters and settings.

Weeks 7-9

Talk for Writing

Non-Fiction

Genre/Plot: Information Text

Hooks and books:

- Why do insects matter? (Talk for Writing text)
- Insects non-fiction books (School Library Service)
- Habitats non-fiction books (School Library Service)

Cold task: Write a recount of the half term (write about real events)

Hot task: Children write an information text based on insects. This also links to the learning children have covered in science.

Weeks 10 & 11

Talk for Writing

Narrative

Genre/Plot: Poetry

Hooks and books:

I thought I heard a tree sneeze by Ed Boxall
A First Poetry Book by Pie Corbett

Cold task: Poem about family

Hot task: Children will independently write a poem on a topic of their choice.