



Talk 4 Writing at Drayton



TalkforWriting



What is Talk 4 Writing?

Talk for Writing was developed by Pie Corbett who is an English educational trainer, writer, author and poet.

It is a whole school approach which develops our children as readers, writers, speakers and listeners.

Talk for Writing enables children to read and write independently for a variety of audiences and purposes. The approach moves 'from dependence towards independence' through using shared and guided teaching and eventually children writing independently and creatively.

The key phases of Talk for Writing are: Imitation, Innovation and Independent application.



Why are we using it?

Talk for Writing is a multi-sensory and interactive way to learn, allowing children of all abilities to write a range of story and text types using various methods.

We want our children to leave Drayton as thoughtful and independent readers and writers.

Talk for Writing has been successful in raising attainment and improving progress of children's writing. You can find out more about this here:

<https://www.talk4writing.com/about/does-talk-for-writing-work/>

In the short time we have been using Talk for Writing we have already seen an increase in vocabulary, excitement for learning and fantastic ideas and creativity for writing.



What does it look like in our school?

Baseline assessment and planning:

Before each topic the children take part in a 'cold task' sometimes referred to as 'have a go' task. This is to see where the starting points are for the children and informs us of what they are able to do independently. Teachers then use these tasks to plan in order to fill in any gaps in knowledge.

Imitation, innovation, Independent application:

Talk for Writing follows this pattern for each unit regardless of the audience and purpose. See below for more details.



Imitation Stage:

We always start with a 'creative hook' to build the interests of the children and engage them before starting a topic.

We use lots of drama and awe and wonder to enabling the children to become passionate about their work.

Children are taught to 'talk like the text'. They listen to, learn and re-tell a model text off by heart, memorising and internalising the language and sentence patterns. Later the children are able to apply this in their own learning.

Innovation Stage:

This is where the children begin to make and create their own versions. The teacher leads the children through planning. At Drayton we change our basic story maps and retell our new versions. As we go through the year we begin to 'box up' our ideas in order to create simple plans to support our writing. Shared and guided writing is used and eventually children begin editing on their own.

Independent Application/Invention:

Children apply independently what they have been taught. Writing is staged over a number of days and this final piece is used as their 'hot task'.



How can you help at home?

Read with your children!

Talk for Writing is about reading and enjoying stories. Children who read for pleasure are more likely to succeed as writers due to reading developing language.

Go through story/text maps:

If your child brings home their story maps re-enact the story with them. Let them show you and teach you the story and actions. This will help them commit the model text to memory.

Create your own stories and maps at home:

There is nothing better than continuing the adventure at home. Let your children show you how to create story maps and bring their ideas to life!