

Writing Skills at Oaklands School.



Oaklands School

"The best for all, the best from all"

Writing is one of the 3 main focuses in English and students make good progress in writing at Oaklands, particularly within KS3.

In KS4, we have more students than previous years accessing a level 1 qualification in English and have some students accessing a level 2 qualification in English.

In July 2019, Oaklands was inspected by Ofsted and remained an outstanding school.

Next steps for the school

Leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that:

they increase the opportunities for pupils to develop extended writing skills in subjects other than English.

Why is writing so important?

Cards (birthday cards,
postcards

Lists

Emails

Applying for jobs

Complaining

Emailing

Online chats

Some research suggests that, post pandemic, writing has become the main way we communicate with each other (often online). It is also what creates a first impression on someone. (UAEg staff blog).

Progress:

Verbal answers in full sentences

Introduction of Word of the Week to expand vocabulary

Thoughts and targets of the week in assemblies / form time

Marking and assessing focusing on extended writing skills in all subjects

Staff meeting time to share ideas and discuss

Staff training (internal and external training courses)

The sharing of resources from English across the school (for example checklists / writing frames)

Celebrating the successes of students' writing

Thought of the Week



Oaklands Thought of the Week WB 23rd January 2023

Why is being able to write clearly so important for life skills?



Answers

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‘People need to understand what you have written.’

‘It makes a first impression.’

‘It will help with getting a job.’

‘To tell someone how you are feeling.’

‘Because writing is a form of thinking.’

‘So if you are writing instructions, the reader can read them and knows what to do.’

‘So you can write letters and emails.’

‘So you can write a birthday card to your friends.’

‘So an examiner knows what you have written.’

Oaklands Target of the Week

Can you use capital letters in your writing?

Staff non-negotiables

Answering questions in full sentences

Full stops and capital letters

Good practice: key words spelling

Our next steps

Continue to celebrate all writing skills across the school.

Continuous staff training (internal and external).

Evaluating schemes of work to ensure that writing opportunities are developed.

Developing ways of using assistive technology can be used in school to help writing.

Sharing students views about writing on the website / social media.

Fun Creative Writing Games Club at lunchtimes.

Support at home

Asking your child to respond / talk to you in full sentences

Sharing times when you might need to write in life (online helpdesks etc)

Spotting interesting words, punctuation choices

Some online resources:

topmarks.co.uk

bbcbiteseize

Thank you