

# Writing –‘The Write Stuff’

At the Bythams, one writing unit a term is taught through “The Write Stuff”. This approach is based around turning our children into ‘impact writers’. They are taught to understand that when they are writing they need to consider the impact of their language choices; they know that everything that they write has an impact on the reader.

There are three different types of The Write Stuff lessons: writing lessons, experience lessons and independent writing lessons.

## Writing Lessons

An individual lesson is based on a sentence model, broken in to three learning chunks. Each learning chunk has three sections:

1. **Initiate** section – a stimulus to capture the children’s imagination and set up a sentence.
2. **Model** section – the teacher close models a sentence that outlines clear writing features and techniques.
3. **Enable** section – the children write their sentence, following the model.

## Zones of Writing

There are three zones of writing which are taught during the lessons:

- Vocabulary (ideas)
- Grammar (tools)
- Literary Devices (techniques)

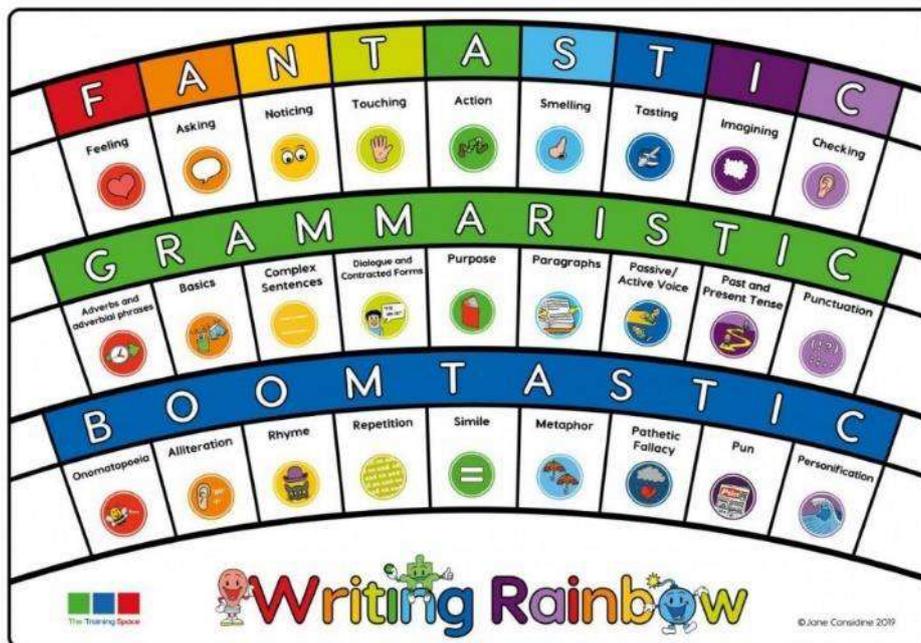
These are taught through the ‘FANTASTICS’, ‘GRAMMARISTICS’ and ‘BOOMTASTICS’.

- IDEAS - The **FANTASTICS** uses a child friendly acronym to represent the nine idea lenses through which children can craft their ideas.



- **TOOLS** - The **GRAMMARISTICS**. The grammar rules of our language system and an accessible way to target weaknesses in pupils grammatical and linguistic structures.
- **TECHNIQUES** - The **BOOMTASTICs** which helps children capture 10 ways of adding drama and poetic devices to writing in a vivid visual.

These can be seen in the Writing Rainbow:



### Modelled writing

Modelled writing is a vitally important stage of the writing lessons. During modelled writing, the teacher 'thinks aloud' as they construct a sentence through the perspective of a chosen lens. The teacher will focus on handwriting alongside demonstrating correct grammar and punctuation. They will also model using the resources that the children are expected to use when they are writing themselves, i.e. the speed sound chart, tricky word walls.

### Exercise books

For each writing lesson the children use a double page spread. On the left side, they have a 'Thinking Side' where they make 'jottings'. These support them to write sentences and construct paragraphs on the right hand side. The 'Thinking Side' page on the left is split into three sections- one for each chunk of the lesson. The children are encouraged to look back over these pages when they write independently.

## **Deepen the Moment**

When writing, all children are writing about the same plot point in the story at the same time. Children who work quickly and are finished before others, are encouraged to 'deepen the moment'. This involves the pupils writing more about the moment or plot point that they are on by enriching the plot with more detail. This stops children from 'plot pushing' and moving on to the next section before the rest of the class. It means that everybody is writing about the same moment at the same time; enabling the teacher to model each plot point. This is also one of the ways that we differentiate in our English lessons.