

The Writing Framework 2025

In July 2025, the DfE published ***The Writing Framework*** in which writing should be seen as a whole-school responsibility to support English Subject Leaders.

The document provides guidance (non-statutory) for the teaching and learning of writing in primary schools.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/686e7890fe1a249e937cbeeb/The_writing_framework.pdf

Guidance which needs to be prioritised is outlined on page 6 of ***The Writing Framework***:

For writing, it is essential to teach pupils transcription skills (handwriting and spelling) from an early age, beginning in reception. This early instruction helps pupils to acquire these skills gradually, allowing them to free up working memory for composing. It may be sensible, therefore, for schools to focus on securing high-quality teaching of transcription now, pending publication of the revised national curriculum.

Ensure to prioritise the Reception year, focusing on strong foundations in communication and language, word reading, spelling and handwriting, including older pupils who are not at age-appropriate standards, in order that they can access the curriculum, as per the *OFSTED Toolkit 2025* and the *Strong Foundations Report*.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strong-foundations-in-the-first-years-of-school/strong-foundations-in-the-first-years-of-school>

Advice for schools from DfE is to audit writing during 2025-2026, focusing on:

The Writing Framework Section 3 Transcription: handwriting and spelling, alongside individual school priorities, and prepare for any necessary implementation in 2026-2027.

The Primary English and Literacy Team at LPDS have created a helpful audit document to support leaders:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/964320/writing-framework-2025-support-docs-for-leaders.pdf>

If you need support for writing in your school, contact Nicola Martin

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