

Case Study – Milton Keynes LEA

Child-friendly writing targets: National Curriculum levels 1c – 3a written in pupil-friendly language

This case study presents some of the work developed by Gifford Park Combined School in Milton Keynes, to involve pupils in their own learning.

The school has created ‘**I can ...**’ statements for National Curriculum levels 1-6a. By using these materials their pupils were able to more easily set their own targets and evaluate their progress.

Level 1c I can:

- write my letters carefully, so other people can recognise them
- get my letters the right way round some of the time
- make my letters the right size e.g. bag
- write letters and words that will tell someone else what I mean
- read my writing to others using the words and letters I have written
- write stories, lists and letters with some help

Level 1b I can:

- write in short sentences or groups of words
- write so that others can read my writing without my help
- use a full stop at the end of some sentences
- write stories, lists and letters without much help
- get my letters the right way round most of the time
- write my letters starting in the right place every time

Level 1a I can:

- write in short sentences
- use interesting words in my writing e.g. hot, big, dark
- spell some words correctly
- write my letters properly all the time
- use a capital letter at the start of a sentence
- use a full stop at the end of a sentence
- write stories, lists and letters using my own ideas

Level 2c I can:

- write more and use two or three different ideas
- link ideas by using connecting words e.g. 'and' and 'then'
- write a story with a beginning, a middle and an end
- put a capital letter and a full stop in the right place in some sentences
- spell some easy words in my writing e.g. we, said, and, they (YrR words)
- use letter sounds to help me write more difficult words e.g. school, because, friend
- think about other words I can spell that sound like the word I want to use in my writing
- write neatly, putting my letters on the line
- use adjectives to make my work more interesting e.g. large, furry, cuddly

I do check my own work

Level 2b I can:

- write stories that made sense all the way through
- write a story in which there is more than one character
- write a story in which several things happen
- describe my story setting clearly so that the reader can imagine what it is like
- use adjectives and adverbs in my writing e.g. slowly, quietly
- use connectives such as 'but', 'then', and other words to join sentences
- use capital letters and full stops correctly in most of my sentences
- remember that names begin with a capital letter
- spell correctly on my own easy words that I use a lot
- use letter patterns to help me spell words (patterns like oo,ck and nt)
- use rhymes to help me spell words (call, ball, fall, tall)
- make sure that descenders of g, p, j, q and y sit below the line
- make sure that t, l, k, f, d and b are all taller than the other letters
- make sure that I don't put capital letters in the middle of words

I do check my own work

Level 2a I can:

- use capital letters and full stops in the right place most of the time
- start my sentences in different ways e.g. use time words, connectives
- use connectives to make my writing interesting e.g. since, although, because, also
- use describing words (adjectives) in my work e.g. enormous, tiny
- spell more words correctly from memory (display list of words that they should know)
- write a story
- write instructions
- write a report using title and subheadings
- write a letter, setting it out like a letter should be
- write clearly and nearly all the time, remembering to keep all my letters the correct size

I do check my work

Level 3c I can:

- write stories, reports and instructions
- use clear beginnings, middles and endings in my writing
- make sure that the parts of my story or report follow each other in a sensible order
- use adjectives and adverbs which are suitable for the genre of my writing
- use various connectives to link my ideas e.g. since, also, because, although
- spell many words correctly which have more than one syllable
- write stories with some interesting events
- use some joins and write nearly
- **I do check my work**

Level 3b I can:

- begin to describe characters and nouns in more detail
- start to describe people's feelings and thoughts
- include some conversation in my stories and begin to use speech marks
- use question marks and exclamation marks
- use alliteration when appropriate e.g. Slugs slither slowly
- join my letters most of the time
- make a summary of a text which I have read

I do check my own work

Level 3a I can:

- improve my writing by changing vocabulary and sentence structure
- describe why characters act in a certain way and explain their feelings using appropriate adjectives
- write in different genre – stories, lists, reports, letters using correct layout
- use interesting ways of joining sentences
- write fluently and neatly in a joined up style

I do check my work