



# Writing Mastery



Fully-resourced  
language curriculum,  
helping students  
achieve in writing

Student success through empowered teaching



## Who are we?

Grown out of Ark, one of the highest performing Multi Academy Trusts in the UK, our team of well researched and highly skilled educational designers and trainers guide teachers and their pupils towards subject mastery.

We believe that all children can succeed through empowered teaching.

### Curriculum

We believe that great curriculum design and delivery leads to improved teaching and learner outcomes, which impacts positively on children's life chances.

### Mastery

Evidence shows that pupils make more progress when they have been equipped to master a subject. They do this by understanding its fundamental concepts in sufficient depth that they can apply subject knowledge in unfamiliar contexts.

### Development

Our commitment is to empower and equip schools to provide high-quality subject teaching, through curriculum collaboration and integrated professional development, in order to develop young people's subject mastery.



## Why Ark Curriculum Plus works

Our connection with Ark gives us our experience and our specialist expertise, earned while we develop and teach subject curricula across our own network of 37 successful academies in the UK.

Our curriculum programmes have been proven to:

- **have a positive impact on pupil progress and attainment**
- **deepen pupils' understanding of key concepts**
- **engage pupils and increase their enjoyment of lessons**
- **make more impactful use of teacher time**
- **drive change and improve teaching**

Our partner schools are supported every step of the way. We believe in working with schools to enable systematic, long-term change to happen from within.

Through improved subject knowledge, pedagogic content knowledge, curriculum and lesson design, and formative assessment, we enable teachers to make informed adaptations to ensure each lesson is right for the children in their particular class.

Our programmes are kept fresh with innovation and improvement, informed by evidence derived from world-leading educational research and feedback from our partner schools.

# The Writing Mastery programme

Writing Mastery is a core part of the full English Mastery programme, and is now available as a standalone offer.

As part of the full English Mastery programme, Writing Mastery is already having a marked impact in hundreds of classrooms across the UK, supporting teachers to develop their implementation of a cohesive, research-backed approach to teaching writing.

Specifically designed for UK classrooms, the programme offers:

- a meticulously-sequenced and interlinked Key Stage 3 writing curriculum
- integrated professional development and planning tools to support teachers' curriculum and pedagogical knowledge
- fully-resourced classroom materials, allowing students of all abilities to make explicit, observable progress throughout Key Stage 3

Pricing information is available on our [website](#).



## Are you looking to develop your whole English curriculum?

Our full English Mastery programme takes the same carefully planned, knowledge-rich approach as Writing Mastery, and also adds curriculum and training resources for Literary Heritage and Reading for Pleasure.

See page 12 to find out more.

# Our approach

Writing Mastery has been informed, delivered and refined by expert English teachers from across the country. Their experience has contributed to the development of the programme as a practical, powerful driver of student attainment.

Our lessons are based on discrete grammar teaching and deliberate, repeated practice. Students keep returning to the same rules in familiar and unfamiliar contexts again and again across the course.

This is what true mastery looks like: practice becomes habit and habit becomes long-term learning. This proven Key Stage 3 writing programme will complement your existing curriculum and support your school to:

- offer discrete grammar teaching that improves precision and accuracy in students' writing
- deliver a cohesive writing curriculum which allows your colleagues to plan and assess how well student know what great writing looks like, and whether they can do it in practice
- support teachers with integrated online training to help them confidently deliver grammar and language lessons, and target common misconceptions quickly and effectively
- free up teacher time in lesson planning, so they can focus on adapting their teaching to meet the needs of their particular students
- close the word gap with lessons that support systemic instruction of tier 2 vocabulary in embedded creative writing



# Proven impact

The full English Mastery programme has been shown by The Brilliant Club to give students on average four months' additional progress when compared to those not studying the programme.

Teachers in our partner schools repeatedly tell us what a difference Writing Mastery is making:



*“When it comes to writing essays and other extended writing tasks, students don't even have to think about where to put a comma – it's become totally automatic for them to write accurately. We see students from all sets and abilities using really sophisticated vocabulary.”*

**Dolapo Oladipo | Assistant Principal at London Academy**

*“The simplicity of the images provided for extended writing allows students to focus on accuracy. They also develop creativity, and enjoy having the time to plan and develop more extended writing.”*

**Laura Carr | Head of English at The Westleigh School**

*“It's having a significant impact on the faculty because it gives us more time to get to know our class, and not worry, 'Have we got the lesson ready?' It allows us to step back and consider how we can really stretch our students, to support them to implement the knowledge, and to really enjoy English. Students find Writing Mastery challenging because – maybe for the first time – they're being forced to be precise and accurate.”*

**Caroline Webb | Assistant Vice Principal at Spires Academy**

*“It's had a large impact already. In terms of pupils' confidence and approach to English, I can see the difference already. It's particularly noticeable in students who came to secondary school with negative views of English or literacy – they find the curriculum fun, and make tangible progress. This has given these students a real sense of success in lessons.”*

**Charlie Brennan | Head of English at Astrea Academy Sheffield**

Visit our website to hear more about the positive impact Writing Mastery has had in other secondary schools:

[www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/case-studies](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/case-studies)

## Route to recovery

Every learner will have been affected by Covid-19 differently.

**Success for all** has always been at the heart of our ambitious curriculum design. In recent times, more children than ever have been disadvantaged by the learning gap resulting from disrupted learning. To help support the route to recovery, Writing Mastery includes:

→ **Purposeful diagnostic assessment:**

- start of year diagnostic tasks to identify knowledge gaps
- signposting to curriculum guidance based on diagnostic assessment
- end of unit diagnostic quizzes to check progress

→ **Tutor handbook:**

- providing structured writing tuition for 1:1 or small group intervention
- 'potential misconceptions' and 'suggested responses' for every activity, so tutors can anticipate, identify, and address misunderstandings the moment they arise

→ **Multiple starting points:**

- the 'stage, not age' approach means that all students access a curriculum that is appropriately challenging and engaging
- students have opportunities to revisit prior knowledge and disrupt 'the forgetting curve'



## Supporting great teaching

The Education Endowment Foundation have identified that a sustained response will be required to negate the impact of school closures and that 'Great teaching is the most important lever schools have to improve outcomes for their pupils'.

At Ark Curriculum Plus, we've always believed that the teacher makes the difference, and we're committed to supporting ongoing teacher professional development.

Our MyMastery learning platform divides a year's worth of curriculum into easily accessible chunks, called Staging Posts. Each covers approximately 4–6 hours of learning, with all the curriculum planning, classroom resources and integrated professional development you'll need to teach that part of the curriculum.



## What do I get when I join the programme?

### The Writing Mastery curriculum

Growing as a confident and articulate English student requires students to be fluent in a large range of knowledge and skills. Through developing and implementing the Writing Mastery programme, we have found that the best way to develop students' understanding of writing, communication and expression is through a systematic, progressive approach to learning grammar and language.

As part of the programme, you can access a precisely defined, expertly sequenced writing curriculum, designed to support students at different starting points.



# Access to the MyMastery learning platform

Our MyMastery learning platform is at the heart of our programme. It offers easy 'anytime, anywhere' access to the full suite of Writing Mastery content, including teaching materials and professional development.



## Planning Guidance

Co-planning is a key part of the Writing Mastery programme.

For any curriculum to have a real impact, teachers need to discuss, plan, and consider how to implement it within their classrooms. Our co-planning guidance and resources offer structured, thought-provoking frameworks to help teachers engage with the curriculum's scope and sequence, and plan how to make it work in the classroom.

## Assessment & Intervention

A solid curriculum works best when it is accompanied by an appropriate assessment system. We provide a fully planned and integrated summative and formative assessment model that complements and advances the skills students develop during their Writing Mastery lessons, and allows you to take immediate action when you see students are getting 'stuck', or need a quick refresh of prior knowledge.

## Curriculum resources

At the heart of our offer is the full set of classroom resources for Writing Mastery. These resources fall into two main categories: lesson resources and curriculum materials.

**Lesson resources** include full lesson slides, complete lesson guides and printable workbooks – and they are all completely editable.

**Lesson 5 Writing** 28 June 2021

Answer the questions to write sentences about the picture.

The first sentence is given. Make sure you copy it accurately.

Tariq sat in his buggy.

What did Tariq do?  
What did Mariam do?  
What did Jimmy do?

sucked pushed followed

**Lesson 25**

Writing

Before Elliot could move to the next enclosure...

Vocabulary			
intercepted	ostich	clucked	chased
scolded	nipped	soft drink	landed

Mastery Checks		
<b>Mastery Check 1</b> I have included speech and punctuation if correctly.	<b>Mastery Check 2</b> I have included a sentence with although, unless or if and have punctuated it correctly.	<b>Mastery Check 3</b> I have used capital letters correctly.

Writing Mastery 2 Student Booklet Page 74

**Curriculum materials** include the resources that support you to implement Writing Mastery effectively: lesson overviews, curriculum maps, potential misconceptions, and assessment tools.

**Writing Mastery 4 Knowledge Definitions**

Aim: To enable students to write accurate, informative, nuanced and developed arguments about both sides of a stimulus topic.

What do the most students struggle to do?  
What knowledge from this unit is important for students to remember for study later in the curriculum?  
What does the teacher need to know to teach this unit?

**Grammar**

- To express an action in relative clauses...
- To express an action in relative clauses...
- To express an alternative point of view...

**Writing Mastery 3 Programme Matrix**

Unit	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Unit 1	✓											
Unit 2		✓										
Unit 3			✓									
Unit 4				✓								
Unit 5					✓							
Unit 6						✓						
Unit 7							✓					
Unit 8								✓				
Unit 9									✓			
Unit 10										✓		
Unit 11											✓	
Unit 12												✓



## Writing Mastery pricing

We are a non-profit organisation. The schools that we work with are charged a financial contribution which goes towards delivering and developing the programmes. You can find pricing information on our [pricing webpage](#) – but do get in touch to receive a quote for your specific setting.

### Also available



English  
**Mastery**

If you're looking to work on all aspects of your English curriculum, you may be interested in our full English Mastery programme which includes Writing Mastery as well as units on literary heritage and reading for pleasure.

Find out more:

<https://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/our-programmes/secondary/english-mastery>



Mathematics  
**Mastery**

We also offer a Mathematics Mastery programme for Key Stage 3.

Find out more:

<https://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/our-programmes/secondary/mathematics-mastery>

Both programmes are available in three flexible tiers designed to meet the needs of your school's context.

Our friendly partnerships team will be happy to talk you through the programmes and help you decide on the right approach and package for your school.

To book a demo, or sign up for a free trial, contact us on:

E: [partnerships@arkcurriculumplus.org.uk](mailto:partnerships@arkcurriculumplus.org.uk)

T: 020 3116 6363

Or book a call online at

[www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/book-a-demo](http://www.arkcurriculumplus.org.uk/book-a-demo)



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