



Our Lady of Victories Catholic Primary School
Writing Key Learning Milestones

Threshold Concept	Milestone 1 The expected standard for students by the end of Year 2
Composition	
Writing with purpose This concept involves understanding the purpose or purposes of a piece of writing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Say first and then write to tell others about ideas. *Write for a variety of purposes. *Plan by talking about ideas and writing notes. *Use some of the characteristic features of the type of writing used. *Write, review and improve.
Use imaginative description This concept involves developing an appreciation of how best to convey ideas through description.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use well-chosen adjectives to add detail. *Use names of people, places and things. *Use well-chosen adjectives. *Use nouns and pronouns for variety. *Use adverbs for extra detail
Organise writing appropriately and use paragraphs This concept involves understanding how to group ideas so as to guide the reader.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Organise writing in line with its purpose. *Write about more than one idea. *Group related information
Use sentences appropriately This concept involves using different types of sentences appropriately for both clarity and for effect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Re-read writing to check it makes sense. *Use the correct tenses. *Write so that other people can understand the meaning of sentences. *Sequence sentences to form clear narratives. *Convey ideas sentence by sentence. *Join sentences with conjunctions. *Vary the way sentences begin.
Show understanding of grammatical terminology This concept involves developing an understanding of a range of grammatical terms to enhance the overall quality and effect of writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Use the word 'and' to join words and sentences. *Use extended noun phrases to describe and specify (e.g. the blue butterfly). *Use subordination (when, if, that or because). *Use coordination (or, and, but). *Use some features of standard written English. *Use the present and past tenses correctly, including the progressive form. *Use sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation and command.
Transcription	
Present neatly This concept involves developing an understanding of handwriting and clear presentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Sit correctly and hold a pencil correctly. *Begin to form lower-case letters correctly. *Form capital letters. *Form digits 0-9. *Understand letters that are formed in similar ways. *Form lower-case letters of a consistent size. *Begin to join some letters. *Write capital letters and digits of consistent size. *Use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.
Spell correctly This concept involves understanding the need for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Spell words containing 40+ learned phonemes. *Spell common exception words (the, said, one, two and the days of the week). *Name letters of the alphabet in order.

accuracy	<p>*Use letter names to describe spellings of words.</p> <p>*Add prefixes and suffixes, learning the rule for adding s and es as a plural marker for nouns, and the third person singular marker for verbs (I drink - he drinks).</p> <p>*Use the prefix un.</p> <p>*Use suffixes where no change to the spelling of the root word is needed: helping, helped, helper, eating, quicker, quickest.</p>
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Threshold Concept	Milestone 2 The expected standard for students by the end of Year 4
Composition	
Writing with purpose This concept involves understanding the purpose or purposes of a piece of writing	<p>*Use the main features of a type of writing (identified in reading).</p> <p>*Use techniques used by authors to create characters and settings.</p> <p>*Compose and rehearse sentences orally.</p> <p>*Plan, write, edit and improve</p>
Use imaginative description This concept involves developing an appreciation of how best to convey ideas through description.	<p>*Create characters, settings and plots.</p> <p>*Use alliteration effectively.</p> <p>*Use similes effectively.</p> <p>*Use a range of descriptive phrases including expanded noun phrases.</p>
Organise writing appropriately and use paragraphs This concept involves understanding how to group ideas so as to guide the reader.	<p>*Use organisational devices such as headings and sub headings.</p> <p>*Organise paragraphs around a theme.</p> <p>*Sequence paragraphs.</p> <p>*Use conjunctions that signal time, shift attention, inject suspense and shift the setting</p>
Use sentences appropriately This concept involves using different types of sentences appropriately for both clarity and for effect.	<p>*Use the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause.</p> <p>*Use a mixture of simple, compound and complex sentences.</p> <p>*Write sentences that include: conjunctions, adverbs, direct speech, punctuated correctly, clauses, adverbial phrases.</p>
Show understanding of grammatical terminology This concept involves developing an understanding of a range of grammatical terms to enhance the overall quality and effect of writing.	<p>Develop understanding of writing concepts by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although. ●Using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense. ●Choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition. ●Using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause. ●Using fronted adverbials.
Transcription	
Present neatly This concept involves developing an understanding of handwriting and clear presentation	<p>*Join letters, deciding which letters are best left un-joined.</p> <p>*Make handwriting legible by ensuring downstrokes of letters are parallel and letters are spaced appropriately</p>
Spell correctly This concept involves understanding the need for accuracy.	<p>*Use prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them.</p> <p>*Spell homophones correctly.</p> <p>*Spell correctly often misspelt words.</p> <p>*Place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals (for example, girls', boys') and in words with irregular plurals (for example, children's).</p> <p>*Use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary.</p> <p>*Write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.</p>

Threshold Concept	Milestone 3 The expected standard for students by the end of Year 6
Composition	
Writing with purpose This concept involves understanding the purpose or purposes of a piece of writing	*Identify the audience for writing. *Choose the appropriate form of writing using the main features identified in reading. *Note, develop and research ideas. *Plan, draft, write, edit and improve.
Use imaginative description This concept involves developing an appreciation of how best to convey ideas through description.	*Identify the audience for writing. *Choose the appropriate form of writing using the main features identified in reading. *Note, develop and research ideas. *Plan, draft, write, edit and improve.
Organise writing appropriately and use paragraphs This concept involves understanding how to group ideas so as to guide the reader.	*Guide the reader by using a range of organisational devices, including a range of conjunctions. *Write paragraphs that give the reader a sense of clarity. *Write paragraphs that make sense if read alone. *Write cohesively at length
Use sentences appropriately This concept involves using different types of sentences appropriately for both clarity and for effect.	*Choose effective grammar and punctuation. *Ensure correct use of tenses throughout a piece of writing. *Write sentences that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relative clauses • modal verbs • relative pronouns • brackets • parenthesis • a mixture of active and passive voice • a clear subject and object • hyphens, colons and semi colons • bullet points.
Show understanding of grammatical terminology This concept involves developing an understanding of a range of grammatical terms to enhance the overall quality and effect of writing.	*Develop understanding of writing concepts by: *Recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms. *Using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence. *Using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause. *Using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely. *Using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility. *Using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (i.e. omitted) relative pronoun.
Transcription	
Present neatly This concept involves developing an understanding of handwriting and clear presentation.	Write fluently and legibly with a personal style.
Spell correctly This concept involves understanding the need for accuracy.	*Use prefixes appropriately. *Spell some words with silent letters (knight, psalm and solemn). *Distinguish between homophones and other words that are often confused. *Use knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that some words need to be learned specifically. *Use dictionaries to check spelling and meaning of words. *Use the first three or four letters of a word to look up the meaning or spelling of words in a dictionary. *Use a thesaurus.