

Dear Parents and Carers

School Improvement 24/25

We are currently part of a **National Improving Writing Programme**, working with colleagues from across Shetland, the Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative (CYPIC- [CYPIC - Children and Young People Improvement Collaborative](#)) and Education Scotland.

Your child may already be telling you about the changes to writing in school.

The programme has already supported many schools and teachers to improve writing attainment in their classrooms.



Engagement and enthusiasm towards writing has significantly improved.
(Teacher)

Attainment results have improved greatly.
(Teacher)

The difference in our writing is unbelievable. The children are focussed and motivated to achieve their targets.
(Teacher)

We wanted to let you know about the programme- as we are exploring changes to the way we would normally approach writing. We are evaluating throughout to monitor the impact.

Changes to our approach include:

- Children write 3-5 times a week for a short period of time (15 minutes).
- The teaching input focuses on a specific writing 'tool' (e.g. punctuation, how to join sentences together, openers).
- Children focus on one aspect of writing for the lesson (their target), which will be made very clear at the start (e.g. correct punctuation).
- **Children's work will only be marked (initially) on that one aspect (target). *Something you will notice when looking at your child's writing jotter.***
- There will be lots of discussion around their writing and children will be encouraged (and supported) to achieve their target.
- Children will be involved in recording their progress and encouraged to celebrate their classes' success when a target is achieved.
- Once the initial target for writing is achieved consistently, a new target will be introduced, building on what they can already do.

Here are some comments from our children in school.

I like the focussed target

I like the check time at the end

I liked it better when I could write for longer.....***(already reflected on by teachers and resolution found)***

Please get in touch if you would like any further information or if you have any comments about our new approach. We would particularly love to hear from you if your child has been talking about their writing at home.

P1-7 teachers