

**School Council Policies
Newport Independent School District
Newport Primary School**

Writing Policy

“Writing” means a purposeful act of thinking and expression that uses language to explore ideas and communicate meaning to others. Writing is a complex, multifaceted act of communication.

Newport Primary School recognizes that writing is an integral part of literacy. Reading and writing are connected processes that cannot be separated. Writing is a necessary communication skill for students and should be authentically taught and practiced in all content areas.

Writing will be an integral part of every classroom and should be based on the following beliefs:

Multiple opportunities are provided for students to develop complex communication skills for a variety of purposes.

- Students will be engaged in three categories of writing: Writing to Learn, Writing to Demonstrate Learning, and Writing for Publication. Teachers should consider the differences in these categories of writing when developing tasks and/or prompts and match these to meet the instructional goals of the unit.
- A variety of genres will be incorporated throughout all content areas as a natural outcome of classroom activities. Teachers will look for opportunities to integrate writing whenever practical
 - Literary
 - Opinion
 - Informational
- Students shall be provided with instruction, models, and opportunities to practice proficient communication which will include speaking, listening, language skills, and writing; including KAS
- Students should complete the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and final copy) when appropriate
- Specific, timely and descriptive feedback will be provided to students on a regular basis regarding their writing progress by teachers
- Students will be given the opportunity to improve their writing and communication skills based on descriptive feedback from their teacher and peers
- Experience writing in on-demand and writing over time situations.

A variety of language resources are embedded within writing instruction:

- Students shall be given appropriate resources driven by various instructional purposes with different audiences such as:
 - Print materials, technology, personal interviews, observations

- Instructional strategies and models that assist in achieving specific learning objectives will be provided to students by:
 - Effective teaching strategies will be used to show students the connections between reading, discussing, and writing.
 - Students will be shown models of effective writing through teacher and student examples. Modeling will be used to teach the writing process: planning, drafting, revising, editing, publishing, and reflecting upon writing.

A variety of technological tools are used in the writing process.

- Students will be provided with opportunities to use a variety of technological tools in order to:
 - Evaluate or communicate using critical thinking skills.
 - Seek a new or deeper understanding based on inquiry around a topic.
 - Demonstrate new understanding through collaborating, creating and making global connections.

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