PRIMARY

CUSP

CURRICULUM WITH UNITY SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

CUSP English Long-term sequence 2026 - 2027

A suggested sequence for schools

Distribution of units

Year group	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Total	Comment
1	9	10	9	28	Autumn term: transition from EY Summer term: securing phonics
2	13	10	11	34	
3	12	11	11	34	
4	12	11	11	34	
5	12	11	11	34	
6	12	10	8	30	Summer term: flex for KS2 assessments and units focused on end of KS assessment

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CUSP Writing long-term overview (unsequenced)

	Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6	Unit 7	Unit 8	
Year 1	Setting descriptions 2 x 2 weeks	Stories with familiar settings 2 x 3 weeks	Instructional writing 2 x 2 weeks	Recount from personal experience 2 x 2 weeks	Informal letters 2 x 2 weeks	Poetry: Playing with language 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry – pattern and rhyme 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry on a theme (nature) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	28 weeks
Year 2	Character descriptions 2 x 2 weeks	Simple retelling of a narrative 2 x 3 weeks	Stories from other cultures 2 x 3 weeks	Recount from personal experience 2 x 2 weeks	Non-chronological reports 2 x 3 weeks	Formal invitations 2 x 2 weeks	Poems developing vocabulary 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry on a theme (humorous) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
Year 3	First person narrative descriptions 2 x 2 weeks	Third person narrative (animal stories) 2 x 3 weeks	Dialogue through narrative (historical stories) 2 x 3 weeks	Formal letters to complain 2 x 2 weeks	Non-chronological reports 2 x 3 weeks	Advanced instructional writing 2 x 2 weeks	Performance poetry – including poetry from other cultures 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poetry on a theme (emotions) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
Year 4	First person diary entries (imaginative) 2 x 2 weeks	Third person adventure stories 2 x 3 weeks	Stories from other cultures 2 x 3 weeks	News reports 2 x 2 weeks	Persuasive writing (adverts) 2 x 2 weeks	Explanatory texts 2 x 2 weeks	Critical analysis of a narrative poem 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poems which explore form 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
Year 5	Third person stories set in another culture 2 x 3 weeks	Playscripts (Shakespeare retelling) 2 x 2 weeks	Dialogue in narrative (first person myths and legends) 2 x 3 weeks	Balanced argument 2 x 2 weeks	Biography 2 x 3 weeks	Formal letters of application 2 x 2 weeks	Poems that use word play 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poems which explore form 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	34 weeks
Year 6	First person stories with a moral 2 x 2 weeks	Extended third person narrative (adventure stories) 2 x 3 weeks	News reports 2 x 2 weeks	Explanatory texts 2 x 2 weeks	Autobiography 2 x 2 weeks	Discursive writing and speeches 2 x 2 weeks	Shakespeare's sonnets 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	Poems that create images and explore vocabulary (war poetry) 1 week essential 1 week enrichment	30 weeks

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Year 1 Autumn Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	CUSP NEW for 2026 Bridging Modules: 3 x Structured Storytime			Beegu		Where the Wild Things Are		The Storm Whale		The Owl and the Pussy Cat or School's Choice Module: Rapunzel		Aesop's Fables: The Boy Who Cried Wolf		Flexible content
WRITING	CUSP NEW for 2026 Bridging Modules: Daily sentence composition			Strong Start Writing	Poetry: pattern and rhyme	Setting descriptions		Instructional writing		Stories with familiar settings			Poetry: playing with language	Flexible content
				Sentence composition lessons to go with Beegu and Where the Wild Things Are										

Year 1 Spring Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
READING	The Tale of Peter Rabbit				Look Up!		And Tango Makes Three!		Flexible content	Chocolate Cake or School's Choice Module: Too Much Stuff		Flexible content
WRITING	Recount from personal experience		Informal letters		Poetry: on a theme: nature	Flexible content	Stories with familiar settings			Flexible content	Poetry: playing with language (Enrichment)	Flexible content

Year 1 Summer Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Here we are or School's Choice Module: Spend It!				The Lion Inside or School's Choice Module: Peace on Earth		There's a Rang-Tan in My Bedroom				The Hare and the Tortoise		The Proudest Blue
WRITING	Lead piece: Instructional writing		Lead piece: Setting descriptions		Poetry: pattern and rhyme (Enrichment	Flexible content	Poetry on a theme: nature (Enrichment)	Informal letters		Lead piece: Recount from personal experience		Flexible content	

Year 2 Autumn Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Flexible content	Grandad's Island		The Goose that Laid the Golden Eggs		Mrs Noah's Pockets		Paddington				The Christmas Pine or School's Choice Module: The Last Tree		Flexible content
WRITING	Strong start writing	Character descriptions		Poems developing vocabulary	Simple retelling of a narrative			Formal invitations		Flexible content	Stories from other cultures			Flexible content

Year 2 Spring Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
READING	The Quangle Wangle's Hat or School's Choice Module: Somebody Crunched Colin		Coming to England		Street Beneath My Feet or School's Choice Module: Planet Full of Plastic		The Rhythm of the Rain or School's Choice Module: #Goldilocks (A Hashtag Cautionary Tale)		Flexible content	The Sun and the Wind		Flexible content
WRITING	Poetry on a theme: humorous		Non-chronological reports		Formal invitations		Recount from personal experience			Lead piece: Simple retelling of a narrative		Flexible content

Year 2 Summer Term

	1	2	5	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Little People, Big Dreams: David Attenborough or School's Choice Module: Shopping Basket		Fantastically Great Women who changed the World				Fantastic Mr Fox or School's Choice Module: The Enormous Crocodile						
WRITING	Lead piece: Non-chronological reports			Flexible content	Lead piece: Recount from personal experience		Character descriptions		Poems developing vocabulary (Enrichment)	Stories from other cultures			Poetry on a theme: change

Year 3 Autumn Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Greta and the Giants or School's Choice Module: Why Money Matters		The Pebble in My Pocket				Flexible content	Leon and the Place Between				& 'Twas the Night Before Christmas or School's Choice Module: What is AI?: The curious kid's guide to artificial intelligence		Flexible content
WRITING	Strong Start Writing	Poetry on a theme - emotions	First person narrative descriptions		Non-chronological reports			Formal letters to complain		Performance poetry (inc. other cultures)	Dialogue through narrative (historical stories)			Flexible content

Year 3 Spring Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
READING	Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark (inc. My Shadow)						Operation Gadgetman or School's Choice Module: The Great Foodbank Heist					
WRITING	Third person narrative (animal stories)		Non-chronological reports				Advanced instructional writing	Performance poetry (inc. other cultures) Enrichment	First person narrative descriptions			Flexible content

Year 3 Summer Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	The Dancing Bear or School's Choice Module: Wildsmith						The Magician's Nephew or School's Choice Module: The Little Prince						
WRITING	Lead piece: Third person narrative (animal stories)		Lead piece: Advanced instructional writing				Dialogue through narrative (historical stories)			Poems developing vocabulary (Enrichment)	Lead piece: Formal letters to complain		Flexible content

Year 4 Autumn Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	The Queen's Nose or School's Choice Module: Land of Roar				The Raven or School's Choice Module: What a Waste or Why Money Matters		Flexible content	The Girl who Stole an Elephant						Flexible content
WRITING	Strong Start Writing	Persuasive writing (adverts)		First person diary entries		Critical analysis of narrative poetry		Poems which explore form	Third person adventure stories			New reports		Flexible content

Year 4 Spring Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
READING	Varjak Paw						Young, Gifted and Black					
WRITING	Stories from other cultures			Explanatory texts		Flexible content	Persuasive writing (adverts)		First person diary entries		Poems which explore form (Enrichment)	Flexible content

Year 4 Summer Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	The Boy at the Back of the Class or School's Choice Module: The Small Things						Wind in the Willows or School's Choice Module: The Borrowers + first block of Wind in the Willows						Flexible content
WRITING	Critical analysis of narrative poetry		Third person adventure stories			Flexible content	Lead piece: News reports		Lead piece: Stories from other cultures			Lead piece: Explanatory texts	

Year 5 Autumn Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Shackleton's Journey						Flexible content	The Explorer or School's Choice Module: The Wrong Shoes						Flexible content
WRITING	Strong Start Writing	Formal letters of application		Dialogue in narrative (first person myths and legends)			Poems which explore form	Balanced argument		Third person stories set in another culture			Poems that use word play	Flexible content

Year 5 Spring Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
READING	Boy in the Tower & Daffodils or School's Choice Module: Boy Giant (3 blocks)						A Midsummer Night's Dream		I Am Not A Label or School's Choice Module: Curiosity (1 block only)			
WRITING	Biography			Third person stories set in another culture			Playscripts (Shakespeare retelling)		Formal letters of application		Flexible content	

Year 5 Summer Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Secrets of a Sun King & If or School's Choice Module: Wrinkle in Time (2 blocks)						Five Children and IT or School's Choice Module: Rabbits (1 block)						Flexible content
WRITING	Lead piece: Biography			Lead piece: Dialogue in narrative (first person myths and legends)			Playscripts		Poems that use word play Enrichment	Lead piece: Balanced argument		Poems which explore form Enrichment	Flexible content

Year 6 Autumn Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Rooftoppers (inc. The Listeners) or School's Choice Module: The Wrong Shoes						Flexible content	Pig Heart Boy or School's Choice Module: Now or Never (2 blocks)				How to Live Forever		Flexible content
WRITING	Strong Start Writing	Autobiography		Discursive writing and speeches		First person stories with a moral		Poems that create images and explore vocabulary	News reports		Explanatory texts		Shakespeare's sonnets	Flexible content

Year 6 Spring Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6
READING	Skellig						All Aboard the Empire Windrush				The Island or School's Choice Module: Climate Action	
WRITING	Extended third person narrative (adventure stories)			Explanatory texts		Flexible content	Autobiography		Lead piece: Extended third person narrative (adventure stories)			Flexible content

Year 6 Summer Term

	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
READING	Dare to Be You or School's Choice Module: The Final Year						Introduction to Dickens – Extracts from Oliver Twist or School's Choice Module: Treasure Island + the first block of Dickens						Flexible content
WRITING	Lead piece: News reports		Flexible content			Shakespeare's sonnets (Enrichment)	Lead piece: Discursive writing and speeches		Flexible content	First person stories with a moral		Poems that create images and explore vocabulary Enrichment	Flexible content