



# CUSP English long-term sequence 2025 – 26

*A suggested sequence for schools: Increased Frequency model*

# 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

# 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

Year 1 Autumn term															
								Half term							
1/9	8/9	15/9	22/9	29/9	6/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	3/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12
New: CUSP Bridging unit 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	
School's Choice Module: New: CUSP Bridging unit Daily sentence composition		Poetry (pattern and rhyme) 1 week	Setting descriptions 2 weeks		Instructional writing 2 weeks				Stories with familiar settings 3 weeks			Flexible content block	Poetry: playing with language 1 week	Flexible content block	
Year 1 Spring term															
								Half term							
5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1	2/2	9/2	16/2	23/2	2/3	9/3	16/3	23/3				
The Tale of Peter Rabbit				Look Up!				And Tango Makes Three!		Flexible content	Chocolate Cake or School's Choice Module: Too Much Stuff				
Flexible block	Recount from personal experience 2 weeks		Informal letters 2 weeks		Poetry on a theme (nature) 1 week			Stories with familiar settings 3 weeks			Flexible content	Poetry: playing with language Enrichment 1 week			
Year 1 Summer term															
								Half term							
13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5	11/5	18/5	25/5	1/6	8/6	15/6	22/6	29/6	6/7	13/7		
Here we are				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	
Poetry (pattern and rhyme) Enrichment 1 week	Lead piece: Instructional writing 2 weeks			Lead piece: Setting descriptions 2 weeks		Flexible content		Poetry on a theme (nature) Enrichment 1 week	Informal letters 2 weeks		Lead piece: Recount from personal experience 2 weeks		Flexible content	Use this week to teach the Reading unit The Proudest Blue	

Year 2 Autumn term															
								Half term							
1/9	8/9	15/9	22/9	29/9	6/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	3/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12
Grandad's Island			The Goose that Laid the Golden Eggs		Mrs Noah's Pockets		Flexible content	Paddington					The Christmas Pine or School's Choice Module: The Last Tree		
Flexible block Suggested use of CUSP Strong Start		Character descriptions 2 weeks		Poems developing vocabulary 1 week	Simple retelling of a narrative 3 weeks					Formal invitations 2 weeks		Flexible content	Stories from other cultures 3 weeks		
Year 2 Spring term															
								Half term							
5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1	2/2	9/2	16/2	23/2	2/3	9/3	16/3	23/3				
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)		The Sun and the Wind		Flexible content	
Poetry on a theme (humorous) 1 week	Non-chronological reports 3 weeks				Formal invitations 2 weeks					Recount from personal experience 2 weeks		Lead piece: Simple retelling of a narrative 3 weeks			
Year 2 Summer term															
								Half term							
13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5	11/5	18/5	25/5	1/6	8/6	15/6	22/6	29/6	6/7	13/7		
Little People, Big Dreams: David Attenborough		Fantastically Great Women who changed the World							Fantastic Mr Fox or School's Choice Module: The Enormous Crocodile						
Lead piece: Non-chronological reports 3 weeks				Flexible content	Lead piece: Recount from personal experience 2 weeks					Character descriptions 2 weeks		Poems developing vocabulary Enrichment 1 week	Stories from other cultures 3 weeks		Poetry on a theme (poems about change) 1 week

Year 3 Autumn term																
								Half term								
1/9	8/9	15/9	22/9	29/9	6/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	3/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12	
<b>Greta and the Giants</b>			<b>The Pebble In My Pocket</b>				<b>Flexible content</b>		<b>Leon and the Place Between</b>					<b>&amp; 'Twas the Night Before Christmas or School's Choice Module: What is AI?: The curious kid's guide to artificial intelligence</b>		
<b>Flexible block</b> Suggested use of CUSP Strong Start		<b>Poetry on a theme - emotions</b> 1 week	<b>First person narrative descriptions</b> 2 weeks		<b>Non-chronological reports</b> 3 weeks				<b>Formal letters to complain</b> 2 weeks		<b>Performance poetry (inc. poetry from other cultures)</b> 1 week	<b>Dialogue through narrative (historical stories)</b> 3 weeks				
Year 3 Spring term																
								Half term								
5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1	2/2	9/2			16/2		23/2	2/3	9/3	16/3	23/3		
<b>Sam Wu is Not Afraid of the Dark (inc. My Shadow)</b>									<b>Operation Gadgetman or School's Choice Module: The Great Foodbank Heist</b>							
<b>Third person narrative (animal stories)</b> 3 weeks				<b>Non-chronological reports</b> 3 weeks					<b>Advanced instructional writing</b> 2 weeks		<b>Performance poetry (inc. poetry from other cultures) Enrichment</b> 1 week	<b>First person narrative descriptions</b> 2 weeks				
Year 3 Summer term																
								Half term								
13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5	11/5	18/5			25/5		1/6	8/6	15/6	22/6	29/6	6/7	13/7
<b>The Dancing Bear or School's Choice Module: Wildsmith</b>									<b>The Magician's Nephew or School's Choice Module: The Little Prince</b>							
<b>Lead piece: Third person narrative (animal stories)</b> 3 weeks				<b>Lead piece: Advanced instructional writing</b> 2 weeks					<b>Dialogue through narrative (historical stories)</b> 3 weeks			<b>Poetry on a theme (emotions) Enrichment</b> 1 week	<b>Lead piece: Formal letters to complain</b> 2 weeks	<b>Flexible block</b>		

Year 4 Autumn term															
								Half term							
1/9	8/9	15/9	22/9	29/9	6/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	3/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12
<b>The Queen's Nose</b> or <b>School's Choice Module:</b> <b>Land of Roar</b>				<b>The Raven</b> or <b>School's Choice Module:</b> <b>What a Waste</b>			<b>Flexible content</b>		<b>The Girl who Stole an Elephant</b>						
<b>Flexible block</b> Suggest ed use of CUSP Strong Start	<b>Poems which explore form</b> 1 week	<b>Persuasive writing (adverts)</b> 2 weeks	<b>First person diary entries</b> 2 weeks		<b>Critical analysis of narrative poetry</b> 2 weeks				<b>Third person adventure stories</b> 3 weeks			<b>News reports</b> 2 weeks		<b>Flexible content</b>	
Year 4 Spring term															
								Half term							
5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1	2/2	9/2	16/2	23/2	2/3	9/3	16/3	23/3				
<b>Varjak Paw</b>								<b>Young, Gifted and Black</b>							
<b>Stories from other cultures</b> 3 weeks				<b>Explanatory texts</b> 2 weeks			<b>Flexible content</b>		<b>Persuasive writing (adverts)</b> 2 weeks		<b>First person diary entries</b> 2 weeks		<b>Poems which explore form Enrichment</b> 1 week		
Year 4 Summer term															
								Half term							
13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5	11/5	18/5	25/5	1/6	8/6	15/6	22/6	29/6	6/7	13/7		
<b>Young, Gifted and Black (final week)</b>	<b>The Boy at the Back of the Class</b> or <b>School's Choice Module:</b> <b>The Small Things</b>							<b>The Boy at the Back of the Class (final week)</b>	<b>Wind in the Willows</b> or <b>School's Choice Module:</b> <b>The Borrowers</b>						
<b>Critical analysis of narrative poetry</b> 2 weeks		<b>Flexible content</b>	<b>Third person adventure stories</b> 3 weeks					<b>Lead piece: News reports</b> 2 weeks		<b>Lead piece: Stories from other cultures</b> 3 weeks		<b>Lead piece: Explanatory texts</b> 2 weeks			

Year 5 Autumn term															
								Half term							
1/9	8/9	15/9	22/9	29/9	6/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	3/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12
Shackleton's Journey							Flexible content		The Explorer						
Flexible content	Formal letters of application 2 weeks		Dialogue in narrative (first person myths and legends) 3 weeks		Flexible content	Poems which explore form 1 week		Balanced argument 2 weeks		Third person stories set in another culture 3 weeks			Poems that use word play 1 week		
Year 5 Spring term															
								Half term							
5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1	2/2	9/2	16/2	23/2	2/3	9/3	16/3	23/3				
Boy in the Tower & Daffodils 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)					
Biography 3 weeks			Third person stories set in another culture 3 weeks					Flexible content	Playscripts (Shakespeare retelling) 2 weeks		Formal letters of application 2 weeks				
Year 5 Summer term															
								Half term							
13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5	11/5	18/5	25/5	1/6	8/6	15/6	22/6	29/6	6/7	13/7		
I Am Not A Label (final week)	Secrets of a Sun King & If School's Choice Module: Wrinkle in Time (2 blocks)							Secrets of a Sun King & If (final week)	Five Children and IT School's Choice Module: Rabbits (1 block)						
Lead piece: Biography 3 weeks			Lead piece: Dialogue in narrative (first person myths and legends) 3 weeks					Playscripts 2 weeks		Poems that use word play Enrichment 1 week	Lead piece: Balanced argument 2 weeks		Poems which explore form Enrichment 1 week	Flexible content	

Year 6 Autumn term															
								Half term							
1/9	8/9	15/9	22/9	29/9	6/10	13/10	20/10	27/10	3/11	10/11	17/11	24/11	1/12	8/12	15/12
Rooftoppers & The Listeners							Flexible content		Pig Heart Boy & How to Live Forever School's Choice Module: Now or Never (2 blocks)						
Flexible content	Autobiography 2 weeks		Discursive writing and speeches 2 weeks		First person stories with a moral 2 weeks		Flexible content		Poems that create images and explore vocabulary 1 week	News reports 2 weeks		Explanatory texts 2 weeks		Shakespeare's sonnets 1 week	
Year 6 Spring term															
								Half term							
5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1	2/2	9/2			16/2	23/2	2/3	9/3	16/3		23/3	
Skellig									All Aboard the Empire Windrush					The Island School's Choice Module: Climate Action	
Extended third person narrative (adventure stories) 3 weeks			Flexible content	Explanatory texts 2 weeks				Autobiography 2 weeks	Lead piece: Extended third person narrative (adventure stories) 3 weeks						
Year 6 Summer term															
								Half term							
13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5	11/5	18/5			25/5	1/6	8/6	15/6	22/6	29/6	6/7	13/7
The Island School's Choice Module: Climate Action	Dare to Be You or School's Choice Module: The Final Year								Dare to Be You (final week)	Introduction to Dickens - Extracts from Oliver Twist School's Choice Module: Treasure Island (2 blocks)					
Flexible content	Lead piece: News reports 2 weeks			Flexible block inc. SATs week		Shakespeare's sonnets Enrichment 1 week			Lead piece: Discursive writing and speeches 2 weeks		Flexible content	Poems that create images and explore vocabulary Enrichment 1 week	First person stories with a moral 2 weeks		Flexible content

# School's Choice modules

Each year, we add new titles to the CUSP literature spine. These are linked to our CUSP Big Ideas and help children understand issues that are important in the world today. For 2025/26, the following titles will be published for schools to make use of.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Bridging module texts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Family and Me!</b> - Michaela Dias-Hayes</li> <li>• <b>This is our house</b> - Michael Rosen</li> <li>• <b>Super Me</b> - Charissa Coulthard</li> </ul> 3 x 1 week blocks	<b>#Goldilocks (A Hashtag Cautionary Tale)</b> - Jeanne Willis 1 x 2 week block	<b>What is AI?: The curious kid's guide to artificial intelligence</b> - Neal Layton 1 x 2 week block	<b>The Small Things</b> - Lisa Thompson 3 x 2 week blocks	<b>Curiosity</b> - Markus Motum 1 x 2 week block	<b>The Final Year</b> - Matt Goodfellow 3 x 2 week blocks