Writing at Home

Year 6

Talk, talk, talk!

Talking with your child is one of the most powerful activities you can do. Use a wide range of **vocabulary** and try to use new words they have discovered when reading. Enter into discussions or debates with your child about issues they care about and talk through ideas they have for their writing. All of this talk will help them develop vocabulary and refine their ideas for writing.

Copycats!

Challenge your child to **mimic the style of an author** they like. Talk about what's special about their chosen author's style of writing. Are they funny, do they use old-fashioned language or are they great at creating suspense?

Linking ideas together

and as well as moreover furthermore in addition	first, firstly, first of all second, secondly... next meanwhile subsequently	for example such as for instance one example is as shown by
similarly likewise as with equally in the same way	but however although unless except	whereas alternatively unlike on the other hand nevertheless

The most effective writing has **cohesion**. This is when ideas, sentences and paragraphs are linked well. Writing can be linked by keeping writing in the same tense, using joining words (left) to link ideas together and by using paragraphs to organise writing.

Audience and Purpose

Encourage your child to think about who they are writing for and why they are writing. This will help them to make their writing more effective.

Who are you writing to?

What are you writing for?

How do you want to make your reader feel?

Handwriting

In Year 6, your child will continue to develop fluent, joined-up writing.

- Sit at a desk
- Put both feet on the floor
- Left hand paper position
- Right hand paper position



Check and progress!

A great way to help your child to improve their writing is to encourage them to read aloud what they have written. Can they spot any missed punctuation? Can they spot any spelling errors? Can they add in extra detail? Could they change a word or two to make their writing even more effective?

How can you motivate your child to write?

Make sure your child knows their work doesn't have to be perfect first time. They can go back and make improvements later.

Share your own writing. Let your child see you writing. Whether it be a postcard to a family member, a journal entry or text messages, let your child know you're using your writing skills for real purpose.

Encourage your child to write about their interests and hobbies. Let them use a computer if they'd prefer to type and they engage more in their writing.

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Writing checklist:

Is your child using capital letters, full stops and question and exclamation marks in the right places?

Can your child add in extra information by using *who, which, where, when, whose or that*?

Is the tense used consistent through the writing?

Can your child choose vocabulary to enhance effects and make their meaning clear?

Can your child use commas to avoid ambiguity?

Can your child read aloud, with expression, what they have written?

Can your child spell these tricky words?

accommodate, accompany, according, achieve, aggressive, amateur, ancient, apparent, attached, available, average, awkward, bargain, bruise, category, cemetery, committee, communicate, community, competition, conscience, conscious, controversy, convenience, correspond, criticise, curiosity, definite, desperate, determined, develop, dictionary, disastrous, embarrass, environment, equip, equipped, equipment, especially, exaggerate, excellent, existence, explanation, familiar, foreign, forty, frequently, government, guarantee, harass, hindrance, identity, immediate, immediately, individual, interfere, interrupt, language, leisure, lightning, marvellous, mischievous, muscle, necessary, neighbour, nuisance, occupy, occur, opportunity, parliament, persuade, physical, prejudice, privilege, profession, programme, pronunciation, queue, recognise, recommend, relevant, restaurant, rhyme, rhythm, sacrifice, secretary, shoulder, signature, sincere, sincerely, soldier, stomach, sufficient, suggest, symbol, system, temperature, thorough, twelfth, variety, vegetable, vehicle, yacht

Can your child tell you what these words are/mean?

modal verb	words like: can/could, may/might, will/would, shall/should and must
relative pronoun	*whom, what, which*, and *that* are all **relative pronouns**
relative clause	gives extra information about a noun https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zsrt4qt
parenthesis	adding extra information to a sentence using brackets, dashes or commas
bracket	( ) used to enclose information to separate it from the rest of the sentence
dash	insert a break in a sentence www.theschoolrun.com/what-is-a-dash
cohesion	the flow of sentences and paragraphs from one to another
ambiguity	something that can be interpreted in different ways – can be unclear in meaning – might cause confusion

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Other ways you can make a big difference



Look for opportunities to give your child some real- life reasons to write. You could try out some of these ideas:

- Write a lockdown letter to cheer up a family member, a friend or a neighbour. Post it together. You might even start a pen pal tradition! You could include artwork too if this is something your child enjoys doing.
- Is there an issue your child cares passionately about? Encourage them to write to a local MP or business to see whether they can create change. This kind of writing can make big differences in the community.
- Work together to send a tweet to their favourite author. Many authors are now on Twitter and love to engage with their readers. What would your child like to ask their favourite author?
- Your child might like to write the book of a film or TV programme for younger children to read. If your child has watched something they've really enjoyed, they could try and tell the same story in writing. Watching the story on screen can give them a great starting point to get going with.
- If you've had a recent visit to a park, library or museum that you have enjoyed with your child, help them to add a review on https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/. Having a real audience who will read their review will often motivate children to write.
- Write book reviews for books your child has read. https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/ is a great website for this.
- Could your child start a blog around their own interest?

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Important Information

In Year 6, children should be encouraged to read daily at home and should exploring a variety of genres including:

- Fiction (traditional stories, action stories, play scripts)
- Non-fiction (newspaper articles, information texts, instructions, biographies)
- Poetry (performance poems, narrative poems)

As well as www.readliverpool.co.uk feel free to access the free Oxford E-Library by clicking here

During school closure, English activities are posted to SeeSaw daily. Click on the link below to log in: www.seesaw.me

If you have any questions, email your class teacher here:

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