



# Writing Guide for Parents

This guide is designed to help you to understand a little more about the progression of writing your child will follow during their time at Dinnington First School. It provides practical guidance on how you can support your child at home.

## How to help your child

### Follow your child's interests

- ❖ Every interest will have a writing opportunity! Here are some examples:
  - Record football fixtures
  - Design a menu for favourite meal
    - Describe a hero or computer character
    - Write a review of a game played
    - Create lists for shopping

### Read often

- ❖ Read regularly and encourage children to comment on what they liked, words that impressed them.
- ❖ Read a variety of texts including newspapers, comics, adverts, leaflets, letters, fiction and non-fiction.

### Discuss the writing

- ❖ Encourage children to talk about their ideas before writing. Talk about some of the words they might use.
- ❖ Help children to sequence their ideas – drawing pictures is a great way to do this.

### Reflect on the writing

- ❖ Provide opportunities for children to read their work aloud. Share with children what you liked about it.
- ❖ Encourage children to think about how they can make their writing better.

# Expectations

As you know we no longer track pupils using levels, but instead track their progress towards an expected standard in their year group. Below lists the expected standard for Year 1.

## **Handwriting expectations:**

- ❖ Sit correctly at table holding pencil correctly.
- ❖ Form letters starting and finishing in correct place.

## **Planning expectations:**

- ❖ When writing stories, say out loud what they are going to write.
- ❖ Put sentences in the correct order – sequencing stories.
- ❖ Re-read sentences to make sure they make sense.

## **Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation expectations:**

- ❖ Use a capital letter at the beginning of sentences.
- ❖ Use a full stop at the end of sentences.
- ❖ Make sure there are clear finger spaces between words.
- ❖ Join clauses together using “and”.
- ❖ Use question marks and exclamation marks in writing.
- ❖ Understand that capital letters are also needed for names, places, days of the week and “I”.

## **Editing expectations:**

- ❖ Look for spelling and punctuation errors and edit where necessary.

# Non-Negotiables

## Year 1

	<b><u>Key fact</u></b>
<b><u>Handwriting</u></b>	<p>I usually form all lower case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the correct place.</p> <p>I recognise and form all capital letters correctly.</p> <p>I always use finger spaces between my words.</p> <p>I form the digits 0 to 9 correctly most of the time.</p>
<b><u>Spelling</u></b>	<p>I can spell the days of the week correctly.</p> <p>I can spell most of the Year 1 common exception words.</p>
<b><u>Punctuation</u></b>	<p>I use capital letters and full stops correctly for most sentences.</p>
<b><u>Grammar</u></b>	<p>I use and/because to add extra detail.</p>
<b><u>Vocabulary</u></b>	<p>I use simple adjectives to add detail.</p>

# Terminology

Below lists the terminology children in Year 1 are expected to know in relation to grammar and punctuation. Please support children in understanding and using this vocabulary at home.

<b>Terminology</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Example</b>
Sentence	A group of words when put together make sense (finger spaces included).	The cat sat on the mat.
Punctuation	Marks used in sentences to clarify meaning.	full stop, capital letter, exclamation, question.
Full stop	Punctuation used at the end of a sentence.	The dog ran fast. ←
Capital letter	An upper case letter at the start of a sentence or name.	The girl was called Jane.
Exclamation mark	Punctuation mark used when somebody is excited, shocked, angry.	How clever you are! How wonderful!
Question mark	Used at the end of question.	What is your favourite colour?
Conjunction	Links two words or phrases together.	and, because
Singular	One person or thing.	book table pen
Plural	More than one.	books tables pens