

Tips for Parents/Carers to help with READING and WRITING

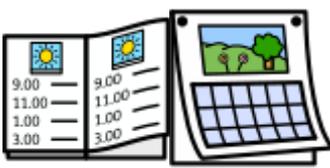
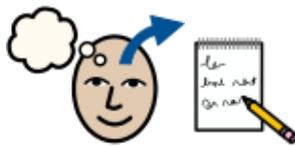
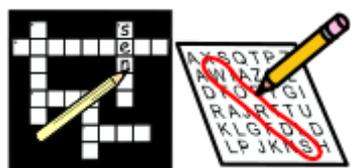
You can help your child with their reading and writing by:

1. Practise



Let your child see you write. Encourage them to write too.

Here are some examples of writing:

 emails	 instant messaging	 thank you notes	 shopping list
 diaries and calendars	 what's for dinner notes	 reminder notes	 crosswords and word puzzles

2. Writing to different people and for different reasons



Help your child to write to different people.



For example if they have a younger brother/sister they could write a short story for them.



Help your child to write for different reasons.

For example entering a competition, writing a birthday card or writing a book review.

3. Make language fun



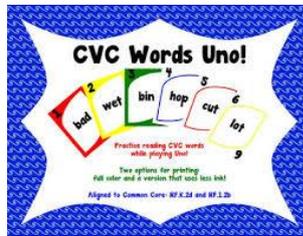
Have fun!



Point out new words you see in the newspaper or hear on the radio.



Listen to your favourite song. Talk about the words. Maybe have a go at karaoke!



Play word games such as Scrabble, word Uno, Boggle and word hangman.

4. Give your child lots of opportunities to read



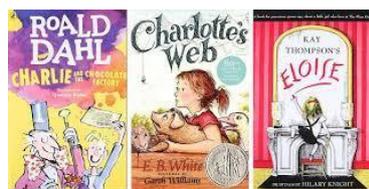
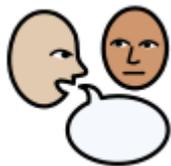
Help them to read things that are educational and entertaining.



For example: reading books and magazines.



Show them you read too!



Talk about what you have both read.

5. Help your child to look at different styles of (and reasons for) writing



Look at what is the same/different.

For example a newspaper and a website. What is the same? What is different?

6. Help your child to find writing that interest them

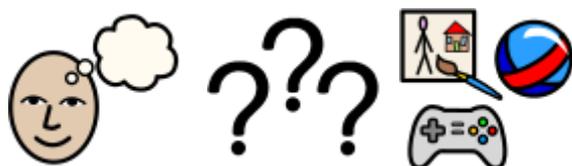


There are lots of different types of writing - letters, poetry, song writing, writing a diary.



Help your child to find one they enjoy and practise. For example they might choose to make a PowerPoint presentation on their favourite football team or pop group.

7. Encourage your child to write about their thoughts and interests

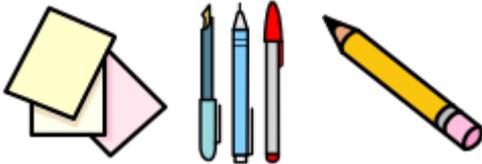


Encourage your child to use writing to think about things in their life, questions, problems, hobbies, and topics they want to learn more about.

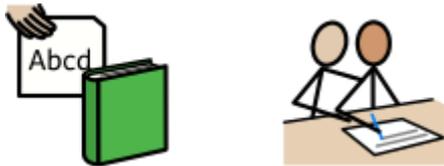


For example they might choose to write in a diary.

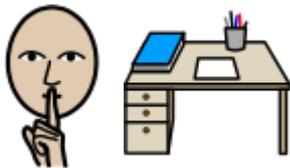
8. Check materials and space!



Check that your child has the materials they need to write - paper, pens, pencils etc.



Give them a dictionary - help them to learn how to look up words to check spellings or the meaning of words.

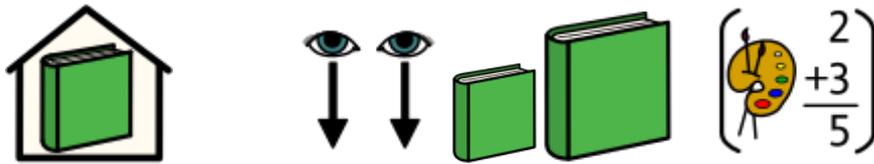


Check they have a quiet space to work.



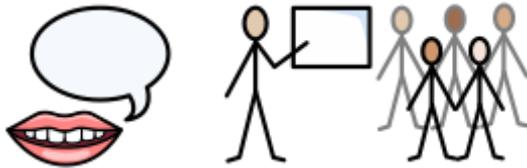
If they need a computer for an assignment and you do not own a computer - check if the local library has a computer.

9. Take your child to the library



When your child has a writing assignment it is useful to visit the library. For example they may need to research a topic and the library may have lots of books on this topic!

10. Talk to your child's teacher



Here at Westhaven, both teachers and the support staff team are happy to advise, discuss and help to find ways that you can support your child's efforts at home.

Final thought...



With your support, help from the school and patience your child should make good progress.

Happy reading and writing together!