

## Opportunities for writing

Opportunities for writing are endless, but those which are relevant and appealing to your child are likely to be more motivating and successful.

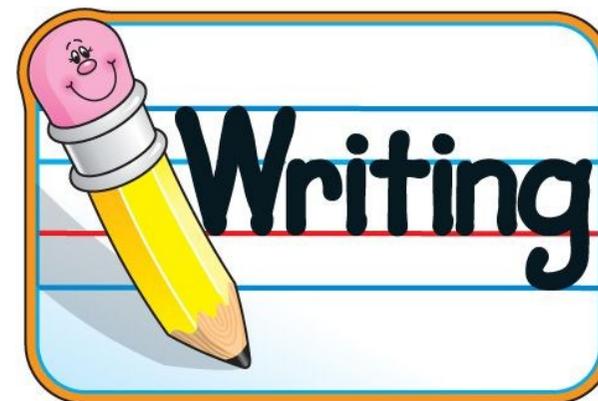
Examples include:

- Shopping lists
- Write a message to a friend
- Write a letter
- List for a birthday party
- Make your own little story book
- Make a scrapbook of a holiday or special events or visits
- Write labels
- Write birthday cards with a message
- Make a leaflet about a place you have visited
- Send a postcard
- Write messages with magnetic letters
- Send a message via email
- Test a message
- Make a diary

At Bursley Academy we value your continued support. If you have any concerns about your child's writing, please speak to their class teacher who will do their best to help you.



# Support your child with writing



Children in the early stages of writing develop confidence by exploring through mark making and 'writing' as they learn through play. Children usually begin by making random marks, such as, circles and lines, followed by the gradual introduction of recognisable letter shapes.

You can help your child in the early stages of writing by encouraging them to:

- Use playdough to develop fine motor strength and manipulation.
- Draw and write in a tray of sand, flour, glitter or shaving foam. These are really tactile for the children and can be less daunting rather than a pencil on paper!
- Make large patterns and letters
- Use crayons, felt tips, pencils, chunky chinks, bath crayons etc. to make patterns, draw, colour and write.
- Find letters on a keyboard
- Find magnetic letters on the fridge.

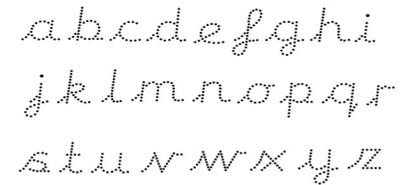


When supporting younger or reluctant writers they may want to trace over or copy your writing. This is fine to develop confidence, but try to encourage them to have a go for themselves,



## Letter formation

Each letter begins with a lead in line. And exit stroke The lead-in line forms parts of the letter. If your child is practising the



formation of the letters it is beneficial to watch where they begin the letter and gently remind them of correct formation.

As the children progress through the school, it will be encouraged that they join their writing cursively.

As children develop an awareness of letter sounds in words, they gradually begin to emerge in their independent writing.

As knowledge of letter sounds progresses, children apply phonic knowledge to write words phonetically e.g. wot (what)

Encourage your child to:

- Listen carefully to sounds in words
- Remind of correct spelling of simple words/ common exception words

Talking to your child about things you may be writing promotes the importance of writing. Praise any efforts however small!

