

Three Bridges Primary School



Writing workshop for parents
EYFS and Year 1



Aims:

01

Explain how we teach writing at TBPS

02

Share ideas for supporting at home

03

Time in classrooms so your child can share some of their work with you

Why writing matters...

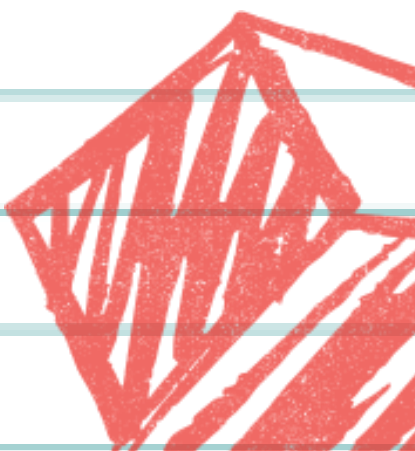


Writing is more than putting words on paper — it's how children express ideas, explain their thinking, and communicate with the world.



Strong writing skills help across all subjects, not just English.

Confidence in writing also boosts confidence in reading, speaking, and learning overall.



The facts...

- 18% of adults in England have very poor literacy skills.
- Adults with very poor literacy earn significantly less over their lifetime.
- Low literacy is linked with higher unemployment, lower confidence, and social isolation.

How we teach writing at TBPS...

EYFS – story dough and drawing club

Year 1 – drawing club, WRITER



Year 2 – Year 6 – WRITER

What is Drawing Club?

- A daily English session created by Greg Bottrill
- Designed for Early Years and Key Stage 1
- Blends drawing, storytelling, and writing
- Sessions start with a shared story or stimulus

What is Drawing Club?

Reinforcing skills from EYFS...

- write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed

- write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others (ELG)

How it works in the classroom...

1. The teacher shares a story and this becomes the "world" for a week – full of characters, places and possibilities.
2. Children are given a chance to draw freely, inspired by the story world. They might draw characters, settings, or even invent new twists. Drawing is central: it makes the story world *theirs*.
[Drawing club \(main character\) - YouTube](#)
3. The teacher introduces a few "secret words" (new vocabulary). These are woven into the play and drawings, so children *use them naturally*. For example: if the story is *The Three Little Pigs*, the secret words might be *sturdy, fragile, sneaky*.
4. Children use their drawings to inspire writing. This might start small (labels, speech bubbles) and grow into sentences or stories. Because the ideas come from their imagination, writing feels exciting and purposeful.

Why Drawing Club is powerful...

- Builds early writing skills
- Strengthens storytelling, imagination, and vocabulary
- Encourages children as authors and illustrators
- Boosts confidence through creativity
- Bridges spoken language and writing



Place Value of Punctuation & Grammar



progress with o
Grammarsaurus

- We teach children how to build a sentence. All the words in a sentence have a job.


Children learn that a sentence is made up of a subject and a verb. In Year 1, we focus on writing simple single clause sentences, such as Toy man is strong. He is smart.

Children master this before learning how to join sentences with words such as 'and'.

If children understand how to build a sentence, they can make one themselves.

How you can support at home...

- Use drawing to get children excited about writing.
Ask open questions: 'Tell me about your picture!'
- Celebrate all writing attempts
- Provide paper, pencils, and crayons
- Share stories and picture books together

<p>To be a Year 1 writer, I will need to...</p>		<p>Grammar and Punctuation... Leaving spaces between words; Combining words to make sentences; Joining words and clauses using 'and'; Using capital letters, full stops, question marks, and exclamation marks; Using capital letters for names and using 'I' properly; Turning words into plurals using -s or -es; Adding suffixes to verbs without changing the root word; Using the prefix 'un-' to change the meaning of verbs and adjectives; Putting sentences together to make small stories.</p>	<p>Spelling... Spelling words using the 40+ phonemes you have already learnt; Spelling common exception words; Spelling the days of the week; Naming the letters of the alphabet; Adding some prefixes and suffixes to words.</p> <p>Handwriting... Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly; Form lowercase letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place; Form capital letters; Form digits 0-9; Understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (letters that are formed in similar ways); Leave spaces between words.</p>
<p>Write sentences by... Saying what you are going to write about aloud; Composing a sentence orally before writing it; Sequencing sentences to form short stories; Re-reading what you have written to check that it makes sense; Discuss what you have written with the teacher or other pupils; Read aloud your writing clearly enough to be heard by your peers and the teacher.</p>	<p>How you can help... Read to your child; Have them read to you; Try some real world writing eg. writing a shopping list or a letter to a friend/family member; Tell stories aloud.</p>	<p>Key Texts...</p> 	



How you can support at home...

➤ Talk lots! If children can say it, they will find it easier to write it.

➤ Practise irregular verbs:

irregular verb

to get



Every day, I **get**...
Yesterday, I **got**...
Have you ever **got**...?
Yes, I have **got**...
Yes, I've **got**...

 www.grammarsaurus.co.uk

R

say, make, go, see, get, drink, run, build, eat, do

Y1

come, sing, meet, sit, speak, draw, swim, cut, dig, put

