Hoxton Garden
Primary School

How to help your child with writing

Year 2

Ways to help with writing

- Help your child write a letter to their favourite author. Correspondence can often be sent to an author's publisher (whose details can be obtained on the internet) who will pass it on.

- When you go on holiday, encourage children to write postcards to friends or relatives. They could record things that you do in a holiday diary which they can share with friends or relatives when they get home.

- After making a cake or doing a craft activity, challenge children to write the recipe or instructions for someone else to use.

- Write an information page or booklet about something they find interesting e.g. spiders, Dr Who, dinosaurs, cats, etc. Draw a picture and label it or write a caption to go with it.

- Encourage your child to learn weekly spellings and phonic group spellings. Write the spellings in sentences with accurate punctuation and practise high frequency words and handwriting.

- Provide your child with a comfortable place to work and exciting writing materials. A dictionary and thesaurus would also be useful.

- Ask your child what his/her writing targets are from time to time and help them work specifically on these.

- Talk through their ideas with them before they start to write, for example, prompt them to think about how they intend to tackle a subject.

- Help them to reflect on their writing, particularly the effect they hoped to have on the reader. For example, is the reader sufficiently prepared for the ending? Have they introduced all the characters?

- Encourage them to read through their work, shaping their sentences for clarity and impact and checking their accuracy.

On the following pages are the targets your child is working on and will need to be secure in by the end of the school year.

Write all my lower case letters in a similar size to each other.

✓ *my letters are like this*

Write my upper case (capital) letters taller than they are in lower case.

✓ *Aa Bb Cc Dd*

Join up my lower case letters in every sentence I write.

Year 2 Writing Targets

Use an adjective to add detail to a description.

✓ *There was a blue butterfly.*

Begin every sentence with a capital letter and end them with a full stop.

✓ *This is a simple sentence.*

Leave a space between each word of the same size as a letter in your writing.

✓ *Spaces should be equal like this*

Use an exclamation mark instead of a full stop to show surprise, shock or excitement.

✓ *I tumbled down the steep slope!*

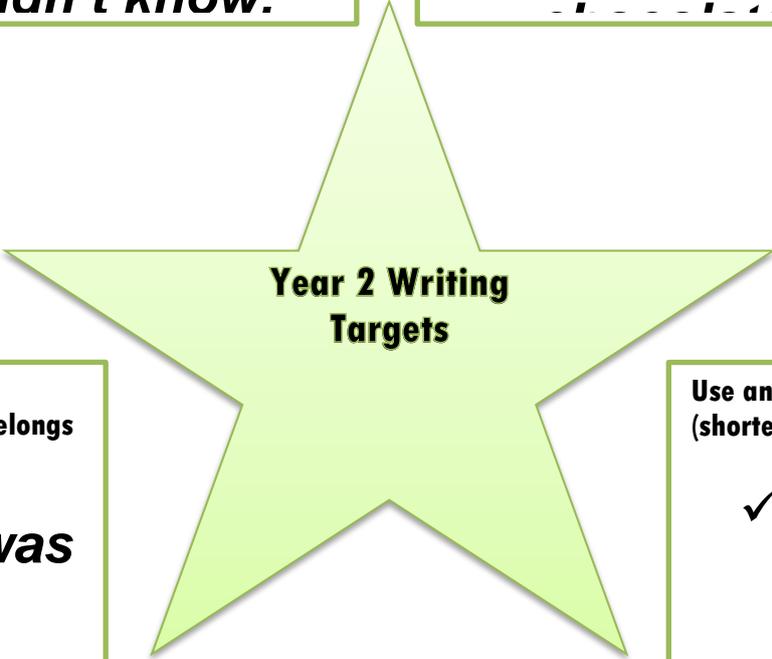# Hoxton Garden

Year 2 Writing Targets

Use a question mark instead of a full stop when writing a question.

✓ *They walked for two hours. How much further was there to go? He didn't know.*

Use commas when writing a list.

✓ *For the walk they would need a compass, map, mobile phone and chocolate.*

Use an apostrophe to show possession (that one thing belongs to another).

✓ *The cup was in her brother's*

Use an apostrophe to contract (shorten) two words into one.

✓ *She couldn't find the torch.*

Use connecting words like and, or, but, when, if, that, and because to join together two ideas (clauses) in one sentence.

✓ *He was big and strong. She had to choose an apple or a pear.*

✓ *He was tired but happy.*

✓ *She had to start the race when the gun was fired.*

✓ *He would sleep if he could find his bed.*

✓ *She was happy that the sun came out.*

✓ *He was happy because he was with his friends.*

Useful words I can spell

the	that	not	look	put
and	with	then	don't	could
a	all	were	come	house
to	we	go	will	old
said	can	little	into	too
in	are	as	back	by
he	up	no	from	day
I	had	mum	children	made
of	my	one	him	time
it	her	them	Mr	I'm
was	what	do	get	if
you	there	me	just	help
they	out	down	now	Mrs
on	this	dad	came	called
she	have	big	oh	here
is	went	when	about	off
for	be	it's	got	asked
at	like	see	their	saw
his	some	looked	people	make
but	so	very	your	an