



## Writing with your children Top Ten Tips for Parents/Guardians

Infants to 1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> Class	5 <sup>th</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> Class
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Model writing yourself - shopping lists / letters / cards etc.</li> <li>2. Provide a special place for your child to write / scribble provide a variety of materials- crayons markers /pencils (box)</li> <li>3. Display your child's name as often as possible i.e. Sean's Room.</li> <li>4. Teach your child the letters in his own name.</li> <li>5. Provide alphabet books friezes.</li> <li>6. Write messages / reminders to your child.</li> <li>7. Encourage child to write his / her own messages. Computer.</li> <li>8. Praise your child's efforts.</li> <li>9. Ask child to read their own messages.</li> <li>10. Respond to the messages and not to grammar and spelling</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Praise your child's efforts - respond to the message and not spelling / handwriting grammar.</li> <li>2. Look for opportunities for purposeful writing activities at home - writing greeting cards, notes, telephone messages.</li> <li>3. Encourage your child to use a word processor / computer.</li> <li>4. Provide a quiet writing /study area for your child well equipped with pencils/ paper</li> <li>5. Encourage your child to keep a diary.</li> <li>6. Support your child's spelling attempts.</li> <li>7. Encourage him to have a go at spelling difficult words.</li> <li>8. Use scrapbooks to support the child's hobby / special interests. Presents that support writing.</li> <li>9. Make sure your child has a dictionary to help with writing.</li> <li>10. Help child fill in personal details on forms etc.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage your child to keep a diary. Respect privacy.</li> <li>2. Encourage your child to write for real purposes everyday - shopping lists / phone messages etc.</li> <li>3. Praise the effort and respond to the message and not the handwriting, grammar etc.</li> <li>4. Make sure that your child has access to a dictionary, thesaurus to help with writing.</li> <li>5. Allow your child work on a word processor.</li> <li>6. Try crossword puzzles and 'Find the word puzzles'.</li> <li>7. Provide a range of attractive writing materials - coloured pens, fancy paper.</li> <li>8. Encourage your child to write greeting cards / thank you notes etc.</li> <li>9. Encourage your child to take part in writing competitions / community projects.</li> <li>10. Show your child that you value writing by writing yourself.</li> </ol>