



Hillcross Primary School's
Parent and Carer's guide

The Year 1 Writer

By regularly listening to stories, poems and non-fiction that they cannot yet read for themselves, your child will begin to understand how written language can be structured in order, for example, to build surprise in narratives or to present facts in non-fiction. Listening to and discussing information books and other non-fiction sets the foundations for children's learning in other subjects.

Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

By the end of year 1, children should be able to:

- ✓ Leave spaces between words
- ✓ Join words and join sentences using 'and'
- ✓ Begin to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark
- ✓ Use a capital letter for the names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I'
- ✓ Use simple/single clause sentences to retell their own experiences in writing

Composition

When planning, drafting and writing, year 1 children should be able to:

- ✓ Say out loud what they are going to write about
- ✓ Say their sentences first before writing them
- ✓ Hold what they want to write in their head and then write their sentences so that they mostly make sense
- ✓ Make some choices about the right words to use
- ✓ Use 'because' to give a reason
- ✓ Use time words for sequencing e.g. first, next, finally
- ✓ Choose what they want to write about themselves

When writing fiction, year 1 children should be able to:

- ✓ Write their own version of a familiar story in order
- ✓ Write stories with a beginning, middle and end
- ✓ Decides where stories are set, include good and bad characters and use ideas from known stories
- ✓ Use story language, such as 'one day', 'suddenly' and 'in the end'
- ✓ Use words and phrases to describe own experiences using the senses

When writing non-fiction, year 1 children should be able to:

- ✓ Uses non-narrative features such as lists and bullet points
- ✓ Write simple non-fiction texts linked to their own experiences or interest e.g. explanation, recount
- ✓ Edit and improve their work



When editing and improving their work, year 1 children should be able to:

- ✓ Re-read what they have written to check it makes sense
- ✓ Discuss what they have written with their teacher and other children

When presenting and performing their work, year 1 children should be able to:

- ✓ Read aloud their writing so that it can be heard by others

Handwriting – year 1 children should be able to:

- ✓ Sit correctly at a table holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- ✓ Begin to form lower-case 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’ (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways such as n and h) and to practise these
- ✓ Write letters, clearly showing the difference between ascenders and descenders and other ‘between the line’ letters

Glossary of terms

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/244216/English_Glossary.pdf

