

Developing writing skills at home – Activity sheet

Step one

Collect **one** of the pieces of student work from the table, a **red pen** and a copy of our schools' **marking policy**.

This is a piece of descriptive writing produced by a Key Stage 3 student.

Identify any SPAG errors (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)

Simply circle the errors you can see or use the marking policy codes. Have a look at the example work marked by the department.

Step two

With a partner, have a look at the *'Tips for parents from the National Council of Teachers of English Helping Your Teenager to Write Better'* (Not the catchiest title but some interesting suggestions!)

Pick one of the tips that you feel you would be able to use at home.

Also have a look at our 10 steps of proof reading so that you will be able to encourage your child to use this before handing in Home Learning.

Students are reluctant to proof read their own work, even though they are often capable of spotting technical errors for themselves.

A useful strategy is for parents to underline any errors in pencil, then return the work so it can be corrected before handing it in. After a couple of weeks hand your child the pencil and get them to do the checking.