

How To Support Your Child With Their English Work

We encourage students to read through their work when they think they've finished. Below is a list of prompt questions which you may find useful to ask your child:

Technical accuracy:

Read this line/phrase/sentence again - does it make sense to you?

Does the punctuation you've used help make your ideas clear?

Have you checked how to spell that word using a dictionary?

Reading tasks:

Have you used evidence (quotes) to support each of your ideas?

Which word or phrase in particular gave you that idea?

Have you given detailed reasons for your ideas/opinions?

Writing tasks:

Have you described the person/place/thing in as much detail as you can?

Can you think of a better/more unusual word/phrase than this? (You could encourage them to use a thesaurus)

Have you used varied sentences?

Further support and guidance:

- There are a number of good quality KS3 English guides available (such as KS3 CGP's *KS3 English Study Guide* <http://www.amazon.co.uk/KS3-English-Study-Guide-Revision/dp/1847622577>). These guides will give students general advice on how to improve key reading and writing skills.
- There are also a number of effective websites available which offer a range of skills-based activities and will help consolidate classroom-based learning, including our own department website, The EnglishZone: <https://frog.backwellschool.net/app/os>.
- The KS3 English curriculum at Backwell is tailored to meet the needs of our own students, so whilst the guides listed above will provide general advice on how to improve key reading and writing skills, they won't necessarily provide specific support with the topics your child will be studying. If you require more specialised support I would recommend you contact your child's English teacher directly.