

Working at level 6 in English

Children will be able to do many of the following:

Speaking and listening

- develop and shape their talk to guide or influence the listener
- engage clearly with a speaker's ideas and develop them
- adapt their speech successfully to meet very varied situations
- sustain work in a group to achieve complex tasks and purposes
- use drama techniques with others to explore ideas, themes or feelings
- explore and analyse some differences in spoken language they have observed.

Reading

- summarise points or trace an idea or theme giving evidence to support their comments from across and between texts
- explore different layers of meaning in a text and their implications
- explain how the writer tries to influence the reader by the way the text is organised, the language used and the viewpoint expressed

- compare how different writers deal with similar ideas or events in different texts and explain how the context in which a text is written or read influences its meaning.

Writing

- begin to develop a distinctive style or voice in their writing explaining why they have chosen particular words or phrases or made particular decisions about how to organise their writing
- use sentence structure and punctuation to shape and create impact
- use and confidently adapt a variety of forms of writing.



What you can do at home to help your child make progress

Speaking and listening

- encourage them to take part in activities that involve presenting to an audience, such as a school assembly, parents' evening, at a place of worship or community centre
- discuss topical subjects of concern with them, for example, health issues such as diet, drugs and alcohol
- encourage them to take part in social activities to broaden their experience of using talk, for example, drama groups, making and performing music with others, taking part in voluntary or community work.

Reading

- keep an active interest in what they read by encouraging a wider reading diet, for example, reading more non-fiction, trying different authors or poetry
- talk to them about why they might either trust or distrust the sources of information they read.

Writing

- be an audience for their writing, feeding back on the impact their writing has had on you
- take an interest in what they write in other subject areas at school
- share newspaper, magazine articles or web texts that are written in interesting or engaging ways and explore how they might use these ideas in their own writing.

If your child is in Key Stage 2 working at level 6 they are likely to be supported by gifted and talented provision in school or elsewhere. Talk to your child's teachers to find out more.



What you can do at home to help your child make progress

Build on all the things suggested for level 7 and in addition, you might consider the following.

Speaking and listening

- encourage creative work such as script writing, film making and podcasting through online writing communities or clubs
- support taking part in master classes and enrichment activities to challenge and engage their abilities, for example, youth theatre summer schools.

Reading

- talk to them about how themes or images relate to either the author's purpose or the effect on the audience
- encourage them to read widely, both fiction and non-fiction
- challenge them in their choices of what they read and their interpretations.

Writing

- justify their writing choices and whether they thought them effective. For example, why did they choose particular vocabulary or adopt a certain tone?
- discuss alternative choices they might have made and what their impact might have been
- explore links with their reading by asking them whether and how their writing has been influenced by anything they have read.

If your child is in Key Stage 3 working at level 8 or EP they are likely to be supported by gifted and talented provision in school or elsewhere. Talk to your child's teachers to find out more.