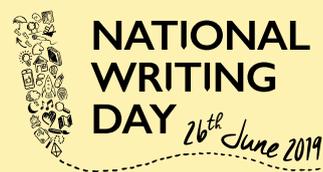


# NATIONAL WRITING DAY: SCHOOLS TAKEOVER



## TEACHER INFORMATION PACK

National Writing Day is an annual celebration of writing designed to inspire people across the UK to get writing. Our message is simple: everyone has a story to tell and sharing it can be a source of pleasure and power.

On 26th June 2019, we will aim to inspire creative writing on a grand scale. This presents an exciting opportunity for students in your school who demonstrate a passion for writing to create a real buzz around creative writing on National Writing Day!

This project is designed to require limited teacher input, and to really be led by the students in your school. This is way raising the profile of creative writing in an exciting way across your school community, whilst being involved in a national campaign.

Your students will of course need to run their plans by you, and may need your support to engage other students and staff and ensure that it all runs smoothly on the day! You can help them to also consider the scale of their plans depending on what will work best for your school – see activity ideas below.

### GOALS:

For your students to take ownership of a project from start to finish and to develop the skills associated with this: idea development, team working, advocacy and role modelling.

To encourage and raise the profile of creative writing within your school community.

For as many students in your school to take part in at least one (maybe several!) fun, inspiring creative writing activity on National Writing Day.

For your students to receive a confidence boost and gain exposure for their achievements.

If you are hoping to run a First Story programme in the future, this could be your chance to generate interest among your students and get some early sign-ups.

### SUPPORT:

We have produced a student information pack to help your students get started, and to kick them off with some ideas.

We really want to help celebrate the work of your students on National Writing Day so remember to share as much as you can on social media using the NWD hashtags #NationalWritingDay and #NWDSchoolTakeover

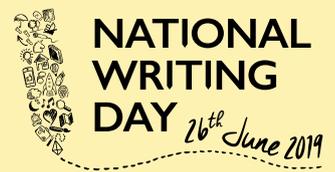
Where possible, engage local media. First Story may be able to support you to make connections here – just keep us informed of what your students are planning and get in touch with us at [nationalwritingday@firststory.org.uk](mailto:nationalwritingday@firststory.org.uk)



Find more resources at [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk)  
#nationalwritingday



# NATIONAL WRITING DAY: SCHOOLS TAKEOVER



## STUDENT INFORMATION PACK

### NATIONAL WRITING DAY SCHOOLS TAKEOVER

Host your very own school event as part of National Writing Day 2019!

2019 will be the third year of National Writing Day, and we want students up and down the country to use the opportunity to takeover their school! Be as creative as you can – use your love of creative writing to inspire other students and staff to get writing!

#### WHY GET INVOLVED?

This is your opportunity to take control of a project from start to finish and to develop the skills associated with this: ideas development, team working, event organising and leadership.

If you enjoy creative writing, this is your opportunity to let others reconnect with the power and pleasure of putting pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard!).

As a young writer, you've already risen to the challenge of trying something new. We want your love and skills of writing and creativity to be celebrated within your school community, and hosting an event for National Writing Day will ensure that they are.

#### IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED

Agree with your teacher the scale of your takeover – it needs to work for you and your school. Is it going to takeover the English department? Is your plan for a quickfire activity that will just take a few minutes, or do you have a whole lesson plan? Could you deliver it during assembly, at a lunchtime club, or during tutor time?

Think about activities and events that can involve as many students and staff as possible. Activities should be easy to explain and understand – something that everyone can respond creatively to - and offer a chance for everyone to try creative writing.

You could come up with a creative writing exercise that every single student in your school can take part in during tutor time on the day. Present the activity to teachers before the day itself, so that they know what they have to do and can lead their class in the activity. Create a series of PowerPoint slides explaining the activity so that teachers can share them with their classes.

If you plan to do this, look at National Writing Day's Write Away activity – it's designed exactly for this, and there will be lots of resources for you to share with your teachers! [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk)

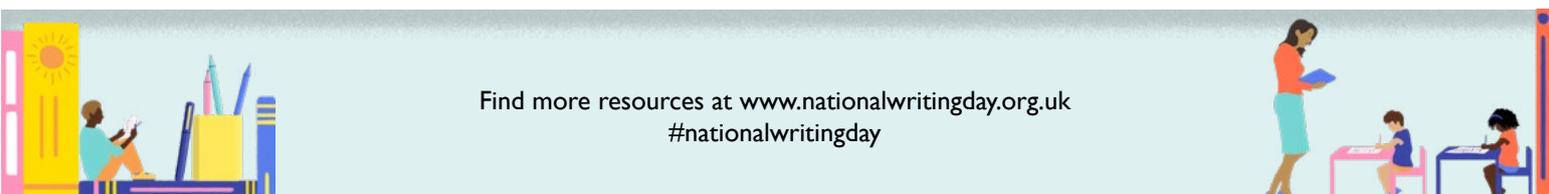
Perhaps you could create a display for your school encouraging everyone to take part. This will let everyone know National Writing Day is coming and build a sense of excitement. You can request a National Writing Day poster to display in your school by visiting [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk/register](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk/register).

Perhaps you could take over the staffroom at lunchtime and get your teachers involved in a creative writing activity.

Could you ambush the school canteen and get the dinner-ladies involved in a food-themed writing activity?



Find more resources at [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk)  
#nationalwritingday



## NATIONAL WRITING DAY: SCHOOLS TAKEOVER – STUDENT INFORMATION PACK

What are the staff in the school office doing? How can you involve them?

Combine writing with aerobic exercise in PE (never worked out to the beat of iambic pentameter? Now's your chance!).

Use the school bell to announce 5 minute 'Drop Everything and Write' flashwrites throughout the day – and EVERYONE has to take part. Even if they're in the middle of a PE lesson. Even if they're halfway through a science experiment. Even if they're halfway through lunch.

'Pass the Pen' – organise your own writing relay, with each person writing the next sentence of the story and passing the pen on. You could have several stories circulating round the school at the same time. Give your contributors some simple rules – no repetitions, no comedy deaths (they tend to end a story pretty quickly), ask them to think about using their five senses and to give you the very best sentence they can come up with.

Think creatively about the space available to you. How can you use the corridors? How can you use the windows?

The National Writing Day website is a rich source of ideas and tried-and-tested activities. Perhaps you can use these activities in your National Writing Day plans.

### LET US HELP YOU CELEBRATE!

We really want to help you celebrate National Writing Day so remember to keep us updated by sharing as much as you can on social media using the NWD hashtags #NationalWritingDay and #NWDSchoolTakeover.

Register your school take-over event on the National Writing Day website and join the thousands of others celebrating the Day. Visit [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk/register](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk/register) to register your event and receive a free National Writing Day poster for your school.

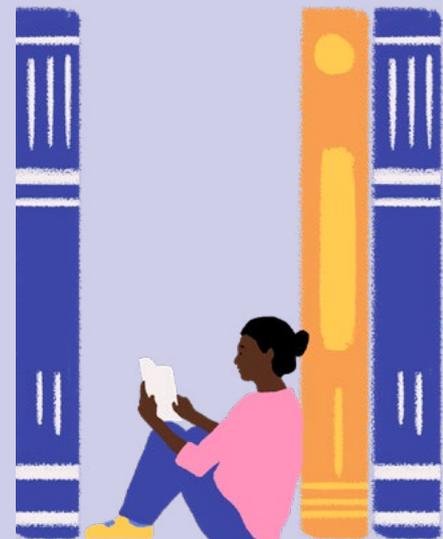
How will you share the work created in school? Can you make a display of work created in the reception area so that visitors know what you got up to on National Writing Day?

### ABOUT NATIONAL WRITING DAY

National Writing Day 2019 is led by First Story, a national literacy charity dedicated to changing lives through writing, and supported by Official Partners and numerous other associate organisations. It is made possible with support from Arts Council England and Old Possums Practical Trust.

Young people are more inclined to write creatively if they see adults around them doing so and writing can benefit people of all ages. We welcome participation from any individual or group, regardless of age, gender, and cultural or economic backgrounds. Our aim is to promote all forms of writing and encourage communities to join in via a programme of public, educational and online activities.

Join in by writing your own original piece on the day using some of our creative resources, attending an event hosted by one of our partners or sharing your own work on social media using #nationalwritingday.



**NATIONAL  
WRITING  
DAY** 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Find more resources at [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk)  
#nationalwritingday

