

Why be a Writer at ZigZag Education?

This unique role means you will become part of a dynamic, friendly and creative team while gaining experience within the highly competitive publishing industry.

Working with your editor in a subject specialist team, you will have the opportunity to showcase your knowledge, innovative thinking and skills to write top-quality materials. You will, therefore, be responsible for helping to shape the resources that thousands of KS3, GCSE and A Level students will use in schools and colleges, enabling them to succeed in their qualifications.

What if I've never been a writer before?

Not a problem! A tried and tested training programme ensures you have the skills to reach the high standards expected by your editor, teachers and students alike. The structured programme includes key modules that enable effective planning, researching, writing and checking of materials.

How am I supported in my projects?

Your editor will provide you with a meticulously researched and creative project brief and will guide you throughout the project. This will include offering helpful feedback from a variety of sources, such as peer and expert reviewers, technical checkers and customers.

Is there opportunity for progression?

A progression track exists to support you in your professional development, from *Trainee Writer* to *Expert Writer*. As you gain experience, you will build up a portfolio of work and achievements to take away with you to support future job applications.

What is the ZigZag ethos?

In this friendly and supportive environment, you will have the chance to grow your expertise alongside people from a variety of backgrounds. We are big on collaboration and promote cross-subject and departmental knowledge sharing. We also enjoy socialising – you name it and we've probably done it – from simple outings to the pub to wine tastings, paddleboarding and escape rooms!

From our Writers...

'I like writing educational resources that will make a difference for students, raising awareness on important issues.'

'You can get involved in a wide range of tasks (writing, researching, checking, training, etc.)'

'I learnt a lot of new things, both from my field (food, nutrition, etc.) and in general (like Excel and Word training, picture formatting, etc.). I find the training sessions very valuable.'

'I enjoy the variety of projects we work on.'

'I enjoy writing educational resources and I learn a lot along the way.'

'There are some thoroughly enjoyable resources to write, especially the more creative ones such as activity packs, case studies, etc.'

'I have a good working relationship with my editor.'

'My editor always tries to be available for meetings when I need them (for support, etc.)'

'It's a great office atmosphere. I get on with a lot of people from a lot of different departments, and when I started everyone was very welcoming. I know a lot of the other writers feel the same way.'

'I would say that the key benefit of being a writer here is meeting and working with such an intelligent and creative team.'

'I think the team is the main benefit of working at ZZ; the writers are really great and supportive, as is the rest of the development team. It's a really friendly atmosphere. It really helped me to stay motivated and focused on my work.'

'I like the working atmosphere and working with other writers, and how well we get along. We help each other often, even if we are from different departments.'

'It's a very flexible work environment. I know there are plenty of writers who work part-time around other commitments, which as far as I'm aware their editors have always been very supportive of.'

Can I participate in other areas of the business?

Yes! There are opportunities beyond the core writing role, including taking on higher levels of responsibility in Editor Support roles, organising our socials, participating in working groups, mentoring other writers and more.

What about my career after ZigZag?

You will familiarise yourself with the new specifications and teaching requirements set by boards for GCSE and A Level and learn how to structure lessons, communicate key concepts and cover unit specifications. This experience provides a valuable stepping stone to teaching, tutoring and working in the education sector. But it doesn't stop there. Skills developed in this role such as teamwork, communication, organisation, meeting deadlines, project research and development will serve you in other areas too, such as continued work in publishing, or marketing, research and beyond!

'It's not 'too corporate' - the working environment is fairly relaxed and informal, aside from the pressure of target times. Actually having target times can be a good thing, providing that you communicate with your Editor if you are given additional tasks to complete by others.'

'Writing the content for the work allows me to keep up-to-date / keeps my knowledge levels up in the subject content, which is useful for when my time at ZigZag comes to an end and I want to look for a job that is related to my studies.'

'There is some useful training / transferrable skills that you can take with you to future jobs (e.g. advanced Word and Excel skills, some of the working methods in the ZigZag methodology).'

'I've been told from former writers that ZZ looks great on a CV if you wish to continue with a career in publishing afterwards.'

Take away a portfolio with impressive quotes about your work! This is a sample of feedback our writers have received across our different subject areas...

