## Introduction to Braille

Braille is a system of raised dots which, when arranged in particular combinations, can represent letters, words, numbers, in fact anything that can appear in print. The basis of braille is the "braille cell". The braille cell is made up of two vertical columns of three dots and for convenience each dot is numbered from 1 to 6 :


Each number shown in the braille cell above corresponds with a key on the braille writer:


## The Braille Alphabet

| a | b | C | d | e | f | g | h | j |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc$ | : | $\bullet \bullet$ | !: | !: | ! ! | :: | : | : |
| k | 1 | m | n | 0 | p | q | r | t |
| $\bullet$ | : | $\because!$ | ?: | ! | $\because:$ | :\% | ! | : |
| u | V | w | X | y | Z |  |  | full stop |
| $\because$ | $\because:$ | $\because$ | $\because \bullet$ | ?: | ?: |  |  | $\because:$ |

## Braille Numbers

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots::$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ | $\vdots:!$ |

Examples of words and braille numbers:

| cat | Jane | 4 | 536 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -? ! : : : | : |  |  |

