



Handwriting

We believe that neat, well-formed handwriting and presentation of written work helps to raise standards as the pupils take pride in and have a sense of ownership of their work. As a school we are adopting the fully cursive method of handwriting. We use Debbie Hepplewhite handwriting as a programme for teaching.



Intent. We aim to:

To have a consistent approach to handwriting both across our Key Stages, but also throughout the school.

For adults to consistently model handwriting appropriate to the stage of the learners, across all subjects.

To raise standards in handwriting across the school so that all children meet the KS2 requirement.

For children to write legibly and at speed across all subjects. To take pride in their handwriting.

For children to develop flow and speed in their handwriting, until the formation of cursive letter is automatic and independent.



Implementation. How do we achieve our aims?

Provision

Handwriting is taught weekly through short, focused sessions and may be linked with spelling, grammar or phonics objectives. Teaching generally occurs outside English lessons, although shared and guided writing also provides additional opportunities for the modelling and monitoring of handwriting

Teaching

Since handwriting is essentially a movement skill, correct modelling of the agreed style by the teacher is very important. Consistency in the attitudes displayed, the methods employed and the models provided is the key to effective learning. A mixture of whole class, small group and individual teaching is planned.

Support

Thicker triangular pencils, pencil grips and wider lines will be used by children experiencing problems writing alongside other activities to develop their fine motor skills. All teachers are aware of the specific needs of left-handed pupils and make appropriate provision. Teachers are alert to the fact that it is very difficult for left-handed pupils to follow handwriting movements when they are modelled by a right-handed teacher.



Impact How will we know we have achieved our aims?

Children are fluent cursive writers, that can write at speed. Children who find letter orientation or spelling difficult (e.g. dyslexic) benefit from the fluid writing movement and feel more confident when writing.

Children feel pride when sharing their written work and are confident that it is legible to those that it needs to be. Children can confidently communicate through the written form.



Progression How does handwriting develop?

EYFS—Focus on movement, pencil grip and posture. Tracking and tracing of letters, and good habits formed.

Year 1 - develop grip, letter orientation, formation. Begin to join their letters towards the end of Year 1.

Year 2— Correct letter orientation, formation and proportion. Cursive joins reinforced and practiced.

KS2—Children to produce fluent, consistent formed style of cursive writing. Equal spacing and letter sizing.