

Approach to Handwriting

Children's journey to becoming excellent hand writers begins in the EYFS with mark making and patterns. All pupils are given access to a wide range of writing tools and mediums to practise the early fine motor skills. The needs of left-handed children or those with physical difficulties are also taken into consideration and where necessary are accommodated with resources or specific intervention.

Pupils are encouraged to develop fluent lines of correctly orientated letters from an early age and emergent writing is encouraged. We believe that discrete handwriting sessions where children's formation and pencil grip can be readily overseen should take place at least once a week in addition that completed in phonics lessons. Correct posture and positioning of paper or books are also emphasised during these sessions. Letter formation and handwriting is taught and modelled using a range of resources. The national expectation at the end of Year 6 is that children will join their handwriting.

In the Early Years and Key Stage 1, children are taught to write in a 'print' style in line with Read, Write Inc. Children are taught small rhymes to remember how to form letters. An example of this can be seen below.

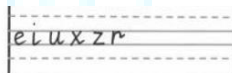


Around the apple
and down the
leaf.

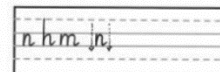
To ensure excellence in handwriting, we continue to teach discrete handwriting lessons in Key Stage 2 following the Martin Harvey scheme to teach individual letter joins and cursive style. As the children move up through the school, they are encouraged to think carefully about the presentation of their work and to develop clear, legible and fluent handwriting.

Here are some examples of the letter formations we use:

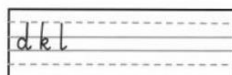
Small letters



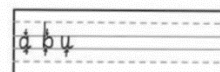
Narrow bridges



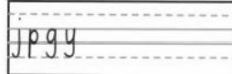
Tall letters



Letters with triangles



Tail letters



Joins with triangles

