



Handwriting Overview

Reception – objectives from EYFS Development matters – Sept 2020, revised July 2021.

3- 4 year olds – Write some or all of their name. Write some letters accurately. (Literacy). Use one handed tools, Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils, show preference for a dominant hand. (Physical Development).

Children in Reception – Form lower-case and capital letters correctly. (Literacy). Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons. Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient. (Physical Development).

Early Learning Goal – Fine motor skills – Children at the expected level of development will: Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases; Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery; Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing.

Early Learning Goal – Writing. Children at the expected level of Development will: Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.

	Terms 1 and 2	Terms 3 and 4	Terms 5 and 6
Reception	Mark making activities / continuous provision activities. Fine motor skills activities. Letter formation taught alongside phonic sounds, letter formation taught through practical hands-on activities such as chalking, playdough, sand trays, painting, chunky crayons etc. Letters taught in order of SSP Unlocking Letters and Sounds – linked to Phonics. Correct pencil grip taught and reinforced throughout year. Children are taught to form the letters with 'flicks'. (lead in and lead outs taught in Year 1)	Mark making and cross curricular continuous provision activities. Fine motor skills activities. Letter formation booklets used – linked to phonics teaching. Order of letters taught follows letters and sounds. Correct letter formation reinforced during writing activities.	Mark making and cross curricular continuous provision activities. Fine motor skills activities. Correct letter formation reinforced during writing and phonics activities – teaching of digraphs/trigraphs (phase 3) Discreet handwriting activities started following letter join scheme. Children begin to see and begin to be taught pre-cursive handwriting in Term 6 – in readiness for Year 1.

Year 1 Handwriting objectives from the National Curriculum

Pupils should be taught to:



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- sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place
- form capital letters
- form digits 0-9
- understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

	Terms 1 and 2	Terms 3 and 4	Terms 5 and 6
Year 1	<p>Letter join scheme used to teach handwriting through discreet handwriting lessons – follow order of Letter Join scheme – easy, then harder letters. Teach precursive letters then move on to joining. Children taught how to sit correctly at the table when writing and pencil grip reinforced.</p> <p>Correct formation taught using lead ins. Handwriting patterns and complete words practised.</p> <p>Correct formation of letters continued to be reinforced through all writing activities and expectations of correct formation enforced.</p> <p>Morning spelling activities reinforcing cursive writing.</p> <p>Parent able to login to the Letter Join Scheme</p>	<p>Week 1 – Teach Capital letters – first 10. reinforce as early morning activity and during Handwriting lesson.</p> <p>Week 2 Next 10 also easy join words during handwriting lesson.</p> <p>Week 3 Next 6 capital letters and easy join words.</p> <p>Teach children easy join words following the progression on Letter Join.</p> <p>Teach correct formation of numbers – continue with this linked to maths.</p>	<p>Teach children harder join words following letter join scheme. and use tricky words from Ph 2 – 5 to write during handwriting lessons.</p> <p>Three harder words and three tricky words each week.</p> <p>Joining tricky words help children memorise these.</p> <p>Continue to reinforce correct formation of capital letters and numerals.</p>

Year 2 Handwriting objectives from the National Curriculum

Pupils should be taught to:

- form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another



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- start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined
- write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.

	Terms 1 and 2	Terms 3 and 4	Terms 5 and 6
Year 2	<p>By Year 2 the children should have already established good handwriting habits. They should be able to form individual letters correctly and write in a cursive style.</p> <p><i>The aim is to increase fluency and speed of the children's cursive handwriting through regular practice, enabling them to form letters securely and with the correct orientation.</i></p> <p><i>Children should be looking to produce neater handwriting with consistent spacing and letter size and should be developing 'speedy handwriting' which can be practised using dictation activities.</i></p>		
	<p>Reinforce sitting position and pencil grip</p> <p>Consolidation of letter formation identifying the different types of letters.</p> <p>Recap letter families with regular practise of writing high frequency words to support reading and spelling.</p> <p>Write sentences using HFW</p> <p>Joining practice, sequencing sentences and easy dictation exercises to develop speed and confidence (CVC words)</p> <p>correcting mistakes and copy writing</p>	<p>Reinforce sitting position and pencil grip</p> <p>Revise formation of capital letters.</p> <p>Further dictation exercises for speed and confidence including number formation and short phrases.</p> <p>More high frequency words,</p> <p>Link long vowel sounds and joining letters and words that contain those sounds</p> <p>Correct orientation of numbers</p>	<p>Dictation and number writing practice- sentences and short paragraphs</p> <p>Children listen to and write sentences correctly</p> <p>Writing numbers, number names.</p> <p>Dictation paragraphs, editing and copy writing.</p>