

Progression in Skills and Knowledge – Handwriting

Flyford Flavell Primary School

Summary

EYFS – Developing motor control and letter formation

KS1 – Securing correct letter formation and joins

Lower KS2 – Developing fluency, consistency and stamina

Upper KS2 – Achieving automatic handwriting and adapting style for purpose

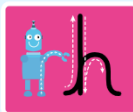
To support our teaching and learning of handwriting we use:



Long Ladder Letters



Curly Caterpillar Letters



One-armed Robot Letters



Zig-zag Letters

<p>Patterns</p>	<p>Easy Letters</p>	<p>Harder Letters</p>	<p>Capital Letters</p>
<p>Joins</p>	<p>Easy Words</p>	<p>Harder Words</p>	

How We Teach Handwriting

Handwriting is an important skill that supports children's fluency, confidence and clarity in all areas of learning. Because of this, we teach handwriting both through regular discreet lessons and by embedding high-quality practice across the wider curriculum.

1. Discreet Handwriting Lessons

Children take part in dedicated handwriting sessions where they are explicitly taught:

- correct letter formation
- accurate joins
- consistent sizing and spacing
- pencil grip and posture
- handwriting stamina

These sessions provide focused time to model, practise and refine the physical skills of writing, giving children the strong foundation they need.

2. Handwriting Within Lessons

Handwriting is reinforced during daily lessons across the curriculum. Teachers remind pupils of expectations for presentation, positioning, letter formation and joins as they apply their skills in meaningful writing tasks. This helps pupils transfer what they have learned in discreet lessons into their everyday work.

3. Guided Writing

During guided writing sessions, teachers work closely with small groups and provide personalised feedback. This includes gentle reminders and support with letter formation, spacing, and overall presentation, helping pupils continue to develop fluency alongside composition skills.

4. Phonics Lessons

In phonics, handwriting supports the learning of grapheme–phoneme correspondence. Children practise forming each new grapheme accurately as they learn the associated sound. This not only develops writing fluency but also deepens early reading skills.

5. Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG)

During SPaG lessons, children record spellings, sentences, and grammar examples, which offers regular handwriting practice in short, purposeful bursts. Teachers reinforce neatness, consistency and joined writing whenever appropriate to ensure skills are applied consistently.

6. Interventions

Children who are struggling with handwriting take part in bespoke interventions to address individual barriers to good handwriting.

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Curriculum Focus</u>	<u>Key Skills Developed</u>	<u>Teaching Emphasis</u>	<u>Expected Outcome</u>
EYFS	Developing the physical foundations for handwriting.	<p>Pupils develop gross motor control through activities such as air writing, pattern making and large arm movements. They strengthen fine motor control through mark making in a variety of media and begin to recognise letter shapes and link them to sounds. Children practise pre-cursive patterns, letters, develop correct sitting posture and tripod pencil grip in preparation for writing.</p> <p>Children begin to learn the correct formation of capital letters and begin forming numbers. Pupils begin to learn when capitals and printed letters should be used.</p>	Motor development, mark making and early letter formation, letter formation.	Children form most lowercase letters correctly, begin writing simple words and demonstrate developing control of pencil grip and letter formation.
KS1	Securing accurate letter formation. Developing joining techniques and early fluency.	<p>Pupils consolidate the formation of lowercase letters using cursive patterns and practise letters through letter families to reinforce movement patterns. They learn the correct formation of capital letters and begin forming numbers and mathematical symbols accurately. Pupils also develop knowledge of when capitals and printed letters should be used while continuing to develop pencil control and writing stamina.</p> <p>Pupils improve the consistency of letter size and orientation while practising joining letters to form words. They write high-frequency words accurately.</p> <p>Pupils begin sequencing ideas into simple sentences and develop increased writing speed and stamina through regular handwriting practice.</p>	Accurate letter formation and introduction of capitals and numbers. Developing joins and applying handwriting within sentence writing.	<p>Pupils form lowercase and capital letters correctly, write numerals accurately and begin to write words using a cursive style.</p> <p>Pupils write using a legible cursive style, join letters correctly in most words and write sentences with increasing fluency and confidence.</p>

Phase	Curriculum Focus	Key Skills Developed	Teaching Emphasis	Expected Outcome
LKS2	Building consistency and stamina Developing fluency and presentation	<p>Pupils maintain consistent letter size and spacing and use joined cursive handwriting in most writing tasks. They develop stamina for longer writing and apply handwriting skills within spelling, vocabulary and dictation activities. Pupils continue to improve the overall legibility and presentation of their writing across subjects.</p> <p>Pupils write fluently using cursive handwriting and maintain consistent spacing, joins and proportions. They present work neatly and clearly while applying handwriting skills across the curriculum. Pupils continue refining letter joins, spacing and alignment in order to strengthen overall presentation.</p>	<p>Consistent joined handwriting applied across the curriculum.</p> <p>Fluency and clear presentation across subjects.</p>	<p>Pupils write consistently using cursive handwriting and maintain legibility when producing longer pieces of writing.</p> <p>Pupils produce fluent, consistent and legible handwriting across the curriculum.</p>
UKS2	Developing automatic handwriting Adapting handwriting for purpose and audience	<p>Pupils write at greater speed while maintaining legibility and begin to produce cursive handwriting automatically. They sustain handwriting quality in extended writing tasks and focus on composition and content while maintaining good presentation. Pupils apply their handwriting skills confidently across subjects.</p> <p>Pupils select appropriate handwriting styles depending on the task and develop faster handwriting for note taking. They maintain legibility under timed conditions and learn when printed or capital letters should be used for purposes such as labelling or form filling. Pupils also develop editing and revising skills when reviewing written work.</p>	<p>Writing fluently during extended writing tasks.</p> <p>Adapting handwriting style for different contexts and tasks.</p>	<p>Pupils write fluently and efficiently while maintaining neat and consistent handwriting in longer pieces of work.</p> <p>Pupils write quickly, fluently and legibly while adapting their handwriting style appropriately for different purposes.</p>