

HANDWRITING AT THRUPP

INTENT

At Thrupp Primary School, we believe that children need to develop fluent, legible and – eventually - speedy handwriting, so that by the end of Key Stage 2 they can write their ideas confidently in all writing across the curriculum. We want to encourage children to take pride in their work and to help children recognise that handwriting is an important form of communication which allows them to present their work to a variety of audiences.

IMPLEMENTATION

To ensure a systematic and consistent approach to teaching handwriting at Thrupp Primary, we follow the **Schofield & Sims WriteWell programme**, which is a clearly structured whole school scheme designed to develop pupils' handwriting from Reception to Year 6. This scheme divides the teaching of handwriting into four developmental stages which are cumulative: Stage 1 – shape; Stage 2 – space, size, sitting on the line; Stage 3 – stringing together, slant; Stage 4 – speed, style.

EYFS

- In Nursery and Reception, children are involved in a variety of activities to develop gross and fine motor control (essential pre-writing skills) in line with the Early Learning Goals of the Foundation Stage. They are encouraged to work towards a tripod grip.
- Once children are ready, they start Stage 1 of the programme which begins with writing patterns. Children then learn to form the lowercase letter shapes, starting and finishing in the correct place. This is reinforced in phonics sessions, using the Little Wandle letter formation phrases.
- By the end of the EYFS, children will have been introduced to all letters of the alphabet and introduced to more independent writing. They are also exposed to a wide range of handwriting and print styles as well as commercial print. This is essential in order to develop awareness for the wide variety of writing styles they will come across in the real world.

Year 1 and 2

- In Year 1, children consolidate correct formation, concentration and accurate precision work. As the children progress through Year 2, they begin Stage 3 where they learn to join other letters. Children are systematically introduced to using the basic diagonal and horizontal joins to join different letters.
- Discrete handwriting sessions take place twice a week. In addition, handwriting activities are incorporated within the Little Wandle phonics scheme.

Key Stage

- In Key Stage 2, the children continue to build confidence by using joins within words. Once joining is secure, children move on to Stage 4 where they focus on speeding up writing, while maintaining legibility in order to meet the various curriculum demands. Children are encouraged to develop a personal style of handwriting that is fast, fluent and legible and can be adapted for different purposes and tasks.
- From Year 5, pupils can use a blue ink pen in all subjects. A pencil is always used for drawing, for example scientific, technical and mathematical diagrams.
- In KS2, handwriting is taught discretely in two short sessions and also integrated across the curriculum.

IMPACT

Children will achieve a standard of handwriting in line with their age-related expectations across the curriculum. They will take pride in and enjoy sharing the work they produce across the curriculum for various purposes and audiences.