



Handwriting progression



Year	Frequency	Handwriting style	Focus areas
EYFS	4 x per week	Printed letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance gross motor skills e.g. air writing, pattern making and physical activities• Exercises to develop fine motor skills e.g. mark making• Becoming familiar with letter shapes, sounds and formation• Correct posture for writing• Correct pencil grip for handwriting
Year 1	2 x per week	Pre-cursive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continuing with gross and fine motor skills exercises• Introduce pre-cursive letter formation• Numerals, capitals and lower case letters – where and when to use, learning and practice• KS1 SPaG exercises
Year 2	2 x per week	Cursive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lessons to improve letter formation and orientation of letters through regular practice• Letter families• Joining techniques• Dictation exercises• SPaG practice• Sequencing sentences• Developing the fluency and speed of writing
Year 3	2 x per week	Cursive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent cursive style throughout independent writing in all subjects• Dictation• Double letters• Ensure improvement in legibility, consistency and quality of handwriting through a variety of resources which link handwriting to other areas of the curriculum
Year 4	1 x per week	Cursive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using handwriting practice to support other subjects whilst also building fluency and consistency• Applying handwriting skills they are learning in context (links to English, maths, science, geography and French) and provide depth to the curriculum• Continue to build on producing fluent, consistent and legible handwriting



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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on size-appropriate handwriting whilst maintaining fluency and legibility
Year 5	1 x per week	Cursive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the stamina and skills to write at length, with accurate spelling and punctuation Produce consistently and well-presented handwriting in all subjects, not just discreet handwriting lessons Focus on producing cursive handwriting automatically across the curriculum enabling them to focus on the content of their work rather than the process of writing
Year 6	1 x per week	Cursive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to decide on the appropriate style of handwriting for the task given Promoting speedy, fluent writing Challenging dictation exercises to refine pupils' revising and checking skills as well as boosting their handwriting speed, stamina and fluency Practise writing at length – linked to a range of curriculum-based activities KS2 SATs SPaG practice

What about those children who are struggling to grasp the foundational handwriting skills?

- High quality on-the-spot intervention to support the child with their pencil grip and posture for writing
- All children to take part in class handwriting lessons as a non-negotiable
- Support in class from class teacher or teaching assistant

Does a child need more practice beyond the classroom lessons (KS2)?

- If we feel a child is falling behind and they need more practice with this basic skill, they will receive a weekly intervention in addition to the whole class teaching – Handwriting Recovery programme
- The correct pencil grip and correct posture will be revisited
- They will focus on warm up exercises and fine motor skills to begin with
- Children will look back over the basics of letter formation, ensuring that letters are sat on the line and ascenders/descenders are formed correctly
- Children will then develop to producing cursively formed letters looking at word spacing and joining techniques