



# Handwriting Parent Pack

## Implementation

Handwriting is taught explicitly and practised regularly across the school. Each key stage follows an agreed programme to ensure continuity and progression:

- Nursery: *Squiggle While You Wiggle*
- Key Stage 1: *Read Write Inc. (RWInc) letter formation*
- Key Stage 2: *Letter Join*

All staff model correct letter formation and handwriting expectations consistently in their own writing, on displays, and in marking.

## Early Years Foundation Stage (Nursery)

**Programme:** Daily Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle

In Nursery, handwriting development focuses on gross and fine motor skills as the foundation for later letter formation.

- Strengthen core muscles, shoulder stability, and arm control.
- Develop early mark-making confidence.
- Introduce movement patterns that underpin later handwriting.
- Use of music, ribbons, large movements, and mark-making tools.
- Opportunities for mark-making within the session combined with Tummy Time and across continuous provision.
- Staff model correct pencil grip and posture as children progress.

## Reception and Key Stage 1 (Years 1–2)

**Programme:** RWInc Letter Formation

Handwriting is taught daily through the Read Write Inc. approach, ensuring consistency between phonics and handwriting instruction.

- Secure correct letter formation using RWInc phrases and pathways.
- Develop automaticity in forming lower-case and capital letters.
- Establish correct pencil grip, posture, and writing directionality.
- Begin to develop consistent letter size and spacing.
- Introduction to simple joins at the end of KS1 where appropriate, starting with diagonal joins.

- Children use handwriting guideline books in their phonics groups.
- All pupils write in pencil appropriate to their need, thicker pencils for those at the earlier stage of accurate letter formation.

## **Key Stage 2 (Years 3–6)**

### **Programme: LetterJoin**

Pupils move to a joined, fluent handwriting style using the LetterJoin scheme. Year 3 is a transition year as two letters are formed differently in RWInc to Letterjoin. We make the deliberate choice to keep fidelity to RWInc in print but move to Letterjoin for a more fluent, joined style. These letters are f and k.

- Develop a consistent, legible, joined handwriting style.
- Increase speed and fluency to support extended writing.
- Apply neat, joined handwriting across all subjects.
- Refine presentation skills, including layout and spacing.
- Handwriting is taught explicitly three times within each writing unit.
- Sessions focus on:
  - Revisiting joins and letter families including lead-ins/outs.
  - Improving fluency and consistency.
  - Embedding joins into words and sentences.
- Practice and rehearsal is written in dedicated handwriting books with guidelines to support pupils with letter size, ascender and descender length.
- Pupils move to writing in pen in Year 4. Rather than having a ‘pen licence’ approach, we expect pupils to be able to write using a free-flowing fibre-tipped pen as part of their progression to neat, legible joined handwriting.

## **Inclusion and Support**

Some pupils may require additional support or adaptations, including:

- Fine motor interventions.
- Pencil grips or alternative writing tools.
- Larger line spacing or adapted paper.
- Targeted small-group handwriting sessions.
- Printing rather than joining if it is legible to a reader.
- Typing as an alternative for those with physical barriers.
- Using different writing implements for ease or legibility.
- Where appropriate, pupils may follow an individualised handwriting plan.