

Park View Primary School **Progression of handwriting**

The importance of handwriting

Handwriting plays an incredibly important role in everyday life, beginning in childhood and running through adult life. In order for children to develop neat and presentable handwriting they must initially be taught how to form their letters properly. Once a child can form their letters properly then they will be able to join them to create smooth flowing handwriting.

Developing beautiful handwriting not only improves the presentation of written work it also helps to improve a child's self-esteem.

How is handwriting taught at Park View Primary School?

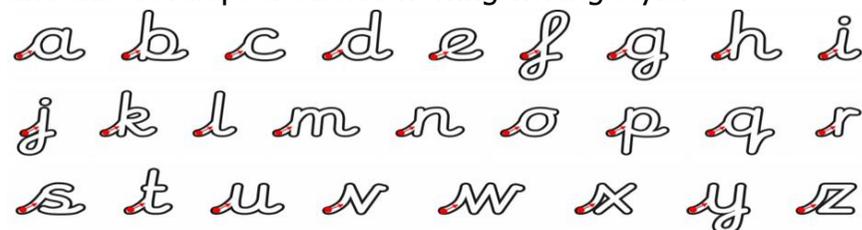
Early Years

The early teaching of handwriting follows the government publication 'Letters and Sounds' and introduces the children to letter sets. Children will be taught to

- Sit correctly with feet flat on the ground
- Grip their pencil correctly
- Form their letters with a 'lead in' and a 'lead out' stroke

Year 1 to Year 6

From Year 1 children will be taught to join letters together and this develops a cursive flowing writing style.



Currently children will receive pen licences when appropriate when they are in Year 3.

How can you support your child's handwriting at home?

The key is practise and the more creative the better! With younger children you might like to write letters in foam, sand trays and chalk outside. Encouraging your child to say the letter as they write and allow them to become familiar with the movement of each letter. Older children might like to practise their handwriting by keeping a diary or writing a story. Being left handed is not generally a problem however some children do experience difficulties. It is therefore important to support your child in developing the correct pencil grip, sitting position and focus on letter formation.

Difficulties with handwriting

Please contact your child's class teacher if you are concerned about your child's handwriting or you require any further information.