

Lewknor Church of England School

Handwriting Policy

October 2019 – October 2022

Intent

At Lewknor Primary we construct a curriculum that is ambitious, broad and designed to give all children the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

Implementation

Teaching is of the highest standard – all subject matter is presented clearly and teachers check pupils understand what they have been taught. Teaching is designed to help pupils remember long-term the content they have been taught and to integrate new knowledge into larger ideas.

Impact

All pupils make at least good progress and achieve highly. They develop detailed knowledge and skills across the whole curriculum.

Overview

All children must have the opportunity and the encouragement to reach their full potential regardless of race, creed or sex. Children with Special Educational needs, where necessary will be provided with specialist equipment such as pencil grips or wider ruled lined paper. Intervention is available for children who experience significant difficulties to practice pre writing skills and fine motor coordination. We aim to make handwriting an automatic process that does not interfere with creative and mental thinking.

Aims

- To have a consistent cursive approach across the whole school to ensure high levels of presentation.
- To adopt a common approach towards handwriting by all adults when writing in children's books, on the whiteboard or on displays/resources.
- Children to achieve a neat, legible style with correctly formed letters in cursive handwriting.
- Children to develop fluency and speed whilst writing, so that eventually the children are able to write the letters with confidence and correct orientation.
- To use a wide range of fonts and writing styles on displays and within the classrooms so that children are familiar with a range of print.

Key Strategies

- As recommended by the British Dyslexia Association, we adopt a continuous cursive style of writing.
- All staff model the agreed cursive style when modelling writing both in class, on displays and in feedback in books.
- Children to be introduced to pre-cursive and cursive script at the earliest stages of writing.
- Children in the Foundation Stage should be writing in the pre-cursive script to enable an easier transition in Year 1 into the cursive script, depending on their ability. However, the expectation is that by the end of Reception pupils will start to transfer towards a cursive script depending on their skill and ability.

- Children in the EYFS are assessed on an ongoing basis through observation, handwriting informs part of this. Within Key Stage One and Key Stage Two, handwriting is assessed as part of children's writing assessments.
- Both right and left handed children should be encouraged to use the tripod grip which allows the pen/pencil to be held securely whilst allowing controlled movements of the pen/pencil nib
- Left-handed children may find it difficult to follow right-handed teachers as they demonstrate letter formation (and vice versa). Teachers will demonstrate to left-handers on an individual or group basis.
- Left-handed pupils should sit to the left of a right-handed child so that they are not competing for space.

Progression in the Teaching of Handwriting

- **Reception** – learn letter formations and by the summer term introduce the cursive flicks
- **Infants** – Year 1 Consolidate cursive flicks and learn joining. Year 2 consolidate joining
- **Juniors** – Consolidating quality and consistency of handwriting