



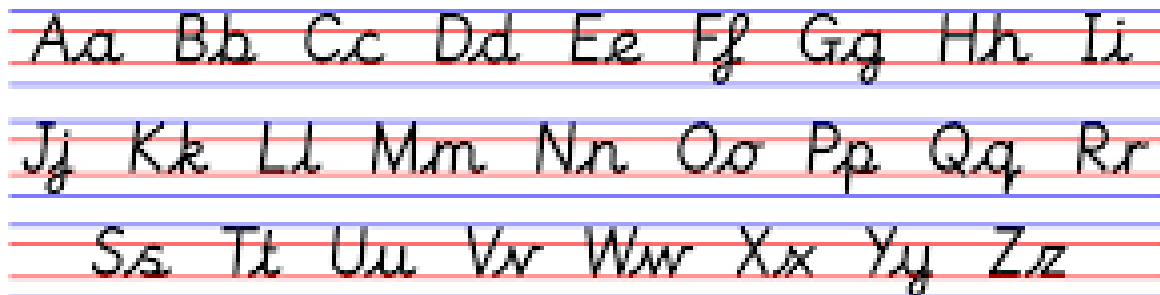
## Pilgrims' Way Primary School Handwriting policy

### 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.

### Teaching and Learning

- Teachers and Teaching Assistants model the agreed cursive style when modelling writing both in class, on displays and through feedback in books.
- Our agreed cursive style is as below:



### Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Communication, language and literacy

Children in the EYFS will be continually assessed in the area of Moving and Handling to develop the gross and fine motor skills needed to use a pencil and be able to develop their handwriting.

Writing patterns and art work will be taught to develop the skills needed to develop a fluent style of writing.

- Children to be introduced to pre-cursive and cursive script at the earliest stages of writing. This will be dependent on each child's needs with particular consideration given to children with SEN and more able children. Teacher judgment will inform when pre-cursive and joining is introduced to individual children. Handwriting is taught each day in Reception.

Children begin with the writing patterns that are pre-cursor to pre-cursive.

- In the Foundation Stage, children should be writing in the pre-cursive script to enable an easier transition in Year 1 into the cursive script, depending on their ability. The expectation is that by the end of Reception pupils will start to transfer towards a cursive script depending on their skill and ability.

- Displays in both Nursery and Reception should include models of cursive script.

- Implements such as chunky triangular pencils, large chalks and chunky pens etc. are used by pupils to rehearse skills on paper, whiteboards, pavement etc.

### **Key Stage 1 & Key Stage 2**

- Within KS1, every class will have four handwriting sessions per week that last about 10 minutes. Pre cursive to be used in Year 1. By the end of Year1 the children should be joining their letters together.

In Year 2 onwards the expectation is that the children write in cursive joined up style for all pieces of writing. In addition, joined up cursive only should be modelled by the teacher.

- Within KS2, every class will have a specific handwriting session for 20minutes per week. The amount of additional lessons is dependent on teacher and class needs.
- In handwriting sessions, spellings, relevant key vocabulary or sentences/paragraphs will be modelled by an adult then practised by children.

### **Posture**

- Chairs and desks within classrooms are matched to children's age and height.
  - Children's backs should be straight and feet resting on the floor. A right-handed child should have their book slanted to the left. For a left-handed child the book should be slanted to the right.
  - Always make sure that the hand which is not holding the pencil or pen holds the paper.
- Implements • Children use a standard HB pencil, well sharpened or a pen.

### **Pen Licences**

In order to use a pen a child must show an adult 3 separate pieces of work that show legible, neat joined cursive writing. Children will take their licences up to their next class. Teachers to hand over this information at pupil progress meetings at the end of the year.

A pencil is always used within maths regardless of whether children have a pen licence.