

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Date of Policy: 2018

Review Date: 2021

Handwriting Policy

Children must be able to write with ease, speed and legibility. If they have difficulty, this will limit fluency and inhibit the quality and quantity of their work. Cursive handwriting teaches pupils to join letters and words as a series of flowing movements and patterns. The style is quick and easy to learn, particularly when it is practised from an early stage.

We aim for children to:

- Achieve a neat, legible style with correctly formed letters in the cursive style.
- Develop flow and speed.
- Eventually produce the letters automatically and in their independent work.

Teaching and Learning

- Handwriting is taught regularly and systematically in classes, groups or individually as appropriate.
- Patterns are used initially, by writing with a variety of tools and using multi-sensory methods, to help free flowing hand motions.
- Correct pencil hold and letter formation are taught from the beginning and handwriting is frequently linked with spelling.
- When marking or writing comments, members of staff use cursive handwriting as appropriate.
- Display writing throughout the school includes cursive writing and computer generated writing.

Pupils will learn to form individual letters appropriately and accurately first and then by Year 2, pupils will begin to join their handwriting. Handwriting skills are taught regularly and systematically through



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the use of the Handwriting for Windows scheme. Pupils in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will initially use printed worksheets, on which they have dotted lines to follow the formation of letters. Pupils in Key Stage 2 will practise their handwriting by using joined words and letter strings from the Handwriting for Windows scheme.

These are the National Curriculum handwriting expectations for each year group:

Year 1

Sit correctly at the table; hold a pencil correctly and begin to form letters in the correct direction; starting and finishing in the correct place.

Year 2

Practise correct letter formation frequently. They should be taught to write with a joined style as soon as they can form letters securely with the correct formation.

Year 3

Most children should be able to join letters fluently, thinking about size and neatness.

Year 4

Most children should be able to write quickly, using a neat and fluent handwriting style.

Year 5

Most children should be joining their writing fluently and neatly with consistent joins and letter sizes. They should be able to write quickly whilst maintaining the quality of the style.

Year 6

The children should be joining their writing fluently and neatly with consistent joins and letter sizes. It is important that they are able to write quickly whilst maintaining the quality of the style.

Provision for left handed children

At least 10% of the population are left-handed, the majority of whom are boys. Left handed children are encouraged to sit on the left side of right-handed children, so their elbows don't bump. They are encouraged to find a comfortable orientation for their paper, usually slightly to the left of centre of their body, and to have their fingers about 1.5 cm from the point of their pencil.



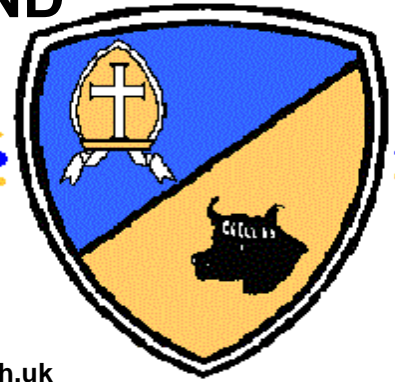
Healthy Schools



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Resources and Writing Materials

The Handwriting for Windows scheme and associated Handwriting Files on CD-ROM are used throughout the school.

Children use pencils in Key Stage 1 and black Biro pens as they progress through Key Stage 2. Children are encouraged to use the tripod grip when holding a pen or pencil. If required, a child having difficulty will have access to pencil grips.

Special Educational Needs

Pupils with specific learning difficulties, including Dyslexia, find cursive handwriting useful because the pen or pencil stays on the paper for the majority of the word. The Handwriting for Windows scheme is recommended for use by children with dyslexia.

