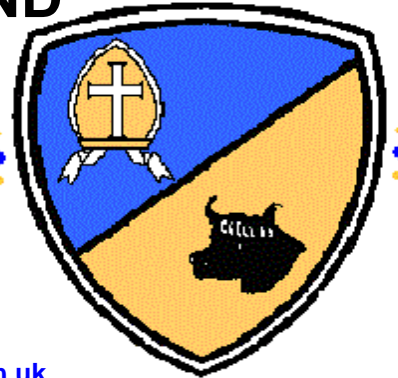


ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



Church Lane

Lowton

Warrington

WA3 2PW

Headteacher: Mr S Hardaker



Fax

web

e-mail

01942 201140

01942 205048

www.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk

enquiries@admin.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk

St Luke's is built on a core set of Christian values, where children feel happy and cared for. Here they find, love, joy, hope and peace.

John 13: 34-35 says: 'Love one another. As I have loved you... By this everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

'Following in God's way, Learning day by day, Working with one another, Caring for each other'

HANDWRITING POLICY

Date of Policy: 2025

Review Date: 2028

At St Luke's, we feel it is important that children are able to write with ease, speed and legibility. If they have difficulty, this could limit their fluency and inhibit the quality and quantity of their work. To aid this, we encourage the use of cursive handwriting which 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 to age and individual readiness.*

- Patterns are used initially in the Early Years Foundation Stage, by writing with a variety of tools and using multi-sensory methods, thus helping free flowing hand motions.
- Correct pencil hold and letter formation are taught from the Early Years Foundation Stage and monitored throughout with interventions used if appropriate.
- Handwriting is frequently linked with spelling.
- When marking or writing comments, members of staff use cursive handwriting as appropriate.

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 the use of the **Handwriting for Windows** scheme. Pupils in the EYFS will use a non-cursive handwriting style initially to help them to learn the correct letter formations and develop their fine motor skills. In Key Stage 1 the children will begin to learn and practise pre-cursive handwriting, leading onto a cursive style as they progress. Both EYFS and Key Stage 1 use a variety of kinaesthetic and written activities to practise their letter formation. Where necessary, pupils in Key Stage 2 will continue to practise their cursive handwriting by using joined words and letter strings from the Handwriting for Windows scheme. We encourage all children in Key Stage 2 to use cursive handwriting in their everyday writing.

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.

Resources and Writing Materials

The Handwriting for Windows scheme and associated Handwriting Files are used throughout the school.

Children use pencils in Key Stage 1 and 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/pen grips or pens suitable to their particular need after discussion with parents or appropriate outside agencies.

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.



SCHOOL
MEMBER

