

Handwriting is a tool of communication in the written form. All teachers should aim for the best that individual pupils can achieve. Handwriting is often linked to decoration and illustration, leading to a finished product which is pleasing to look at and which can be attractively displayed. Children can achieve a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure from the way they present their work.

Principles for Teaching and Learning:

- Handwriting is a skill that needs to be actively taught
- Children need to understand the purpose and audience for their handwriting
- Handwriting sessions take place regularly and consistently, in a timetabled slot
- Class Teachers follow the progression document for the introduction of letters and their associated joins at the children's ability level.

Progression in Handwriting

The Handwriting programme at Turvey is based around five main development phases. They are:

1. Pre-learning: Readiness for writing: Gross and fine motor skills leading to letter formation (EYFS)
2. Beginning to join (KS1)
3. Securing the joins (KS1/Lower KS2)
4. Practising speed and fluency (Lower KS2)
5. Presentation skills (Upper KS2)

Below is a plan for the children to work through. Every child's writing develops at a slightly different pace (as with most learning) but we have set the following guidelines for handwriting development.

Reception (Daily sessions)

Pupils will be given plenty of opportunities to develop hand control- plasticine, cutting out, small construction toys, jigsaws, peg boards, drawing patterns etc. These should be offered on a daily basis.

Handwriting should be taught as a whole class, using the set letter patterns below. It should not be taught alongside phonics, as this is arranged in a more phonetically pleasing order.

By the end of Reception year the majority of children should be able to form all 26 letters of the alphabet correctly.

Year 1 (Daily sessions, 10 mins)

Pupils will spend the first term practising the formation of lower case letters as part of words, e.g. common words and/or CVC, CCVC, CVCC words. This should continue to be teacher led as far as possible. The children are monitored as they write.

Year 2 (2-3 times a week, 10 mins)

Pupils should spend a few weeks practising base line joins before progressing on to top joins, joins to anti-clockwise letters and other joins. Handwriting should be taught as a whole class, but with additional activities for any children experiencing difficulties. Children should then move onto the CEWs (Common Exception Words)

By the end of year 2 the majority of children should be joining their writing using the cursive script.

Years 3 & 4 (Weekly 10 mins)

Pupils will benefit from a regular handwriting lesson, teacher led. Handwriting can now focus on spelling. The expectation should be for pupils to be transferring their joined script to all areas of the curriculum. Pupils should be reminded and praised when they succeed.

Words are taken from Spelling Planit in order to reinforce the spellings of the week. The children are also encouraged to put the words they are learning into sentences to ensure they understand how to use them in the correct context.

By the end of year 4 the majority of the children should be ready to use a pen through Year 5 and 6.

Years 5 & 6 (Weekly 10 mins)

Pupils should now be encouraged to use their own fluent and legible style in all their writing. With good teaching from Reception to Y4, most pupils will be able to do so. If a pupil's writing is still poor it is often simply the size of the letters that is inconsistent or the placing of them on the line. This may be tackled by teacher/pupil discussion or individualised and specific target setting.

Writing is taken from books relating to the children's topics.

Handwriting order

Below is the order in which children will learn the joins.

Set One – Curly Caterpillar Family	Set Two – Ladder Family	Set Three – One Armed Robots Family	Set Four – Zigzag Monsters Family	Set Five - Numbers
c	i	r	N	1 0
o	l	b	M	2 3
a	t	n	X	4 5
d	j	h	W	6 7
g	u	m		8 9
q	y	k		
e		p		
s				
f				

Revision			
Lower case a - z			
Child's full name			
Capitals A - M			
Capitals N - Z			
Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4
ll	all	ar	ip
li	in	aw	up
ti	un	iv	ib
il	an	hu	ub
it	im	ti	th

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4
ill	um	ki	ck
ut	am	du	ch
at	ine	ay	ent
ull	ime	ey	ant

Top Joins

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Set 5
ou	re	ob	ve	fe
ov	ri	ol	we	gi
ow	it	ot	wh	fu
op	rk	of		gl
		if		ft

Joins to anti-clockwise letters

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4
ac	oa	fa	ea
ad	od	fo	ed
ag	og	va	
ca	oo	wa	
da		ws	
ha			

Other joins
Joins to e
Joining from t
Joining from p
Joining from b
Descenders
Descenders joined to e
qu
ff
ss

Other joins	
SW	
US	
IX	