



Harper Bell SDA Primary : Approach To Handwriting



Intent

At Harper Bell SDA Primary School, our handwriting scheme aims to provide a structured, whole-school approach to teaching fluent, legible, and speedy cursive handwriting, ultimately making the physical process of writing an automatic skill that does not interfere with a child's creative and mental thinking.

Implementation

- **Early Development:** In EYFS, pupils strengthen motor control through mark-making and tool manipulation, supported by rich teacher modelling.
- **Progression:** Pupils move from forming letters correctly to joining fluently and writing at length by Year 6 whilst being encouraged to develop their own style.
- **Support:** KS2 pupils with additional handwriting needs receive targeted interventions and scaffolded practice.
- **Expectations:** High standards of presentation are modelled and reinforced in all books. Pupils are motivated to earn and maintain their Pen Licence.

Impact

Pupils write fluently and legibly with increasing speed and stamina.

Clear expectations promote pride, independence and consistency across subjects.

Both Little Wandle and Letter Join allow for pupils to rehearse and secure handwriting skills whilst applying them to age related national curriculum skills.

Pupil Voice:

Y5 "I enjoy handwriting lessons because my teacher gives me tips to improve – I'm hoping to get my pen licence soon."

Assessment

- Baseline handwriting assessments are completed in autumn term to inform teaching and intervention.
- Progress is monitored through ongoing teacher observation and writing moderation.
- Handwriting is reviewed within TAF assessments each half term.
- In Years 2 and 6, handwriting is assessed rigorously in line with the statutory framework.

Subject Knowledge, Skills and Vocabulary

Our handwriting curriculum builds fine motor control, letter formation and fluency. Pupils develop:

Legibility and Consistency: To ensure all pupils can produce neat, consistent, joined-up writing by the end of Key Stage 2.

Promote Speed and Stamina: To build the fluency and speed of handwriting, enabling children to write for longer periods without fatigue and take quick notes when necessary.

Foster Pride in Presentation: To encourage children to take care and pride in their handwriting and the overall presentation of their work across all subjects.

Meet National Curriculum Requirements: To provide a systematic method that covers all the requirements of the national curriculum for handwriting, including correct letter formation, appropriate spacing, and the use of capital letters and digits.

Integrate with LW Phonics: To complement existing phonics programs by linking letter formation and joining techniques with phoneme and grapheme learning.

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Inclusion

Handwriting at Harper Bell is designed to promote participation and pride in every learner's work, regardless of physical or learning need. Fine motor skills are carefully developed through multi-sensory activities; the Letter Join scheme is adapted for pupils needing additional support. Clear presentation standards, scaffolded writing tasks and regular monitoring mean all children can write fluently, confidently and respectfully.