



Birkwood Primary School Handwriting Policy

Rationale

At Birkwood Primary School, we believe that fluent, legible handwriting is an essential life skill that supports success across the curriculum. When handwriting becomes automatic, pupils can focus on composition and communication rather than letter formation. Our aim is for all pupils to develop a clear, consistent and increasingly fluent handwriting style by the end of Key Stage 2.

Aims

- develop correct posture, pencil grip and paper position.
- form letters and numbers accurately.
- produce handwriting that is legible, neat and consistent.
- develop speed and fluency over time.
- take pride in presentation.
- apply handwriting skills across the curriculum.

Teaching and Learning

Handwriting development begins in EYFS through gross motor development, fine motor activities and purposeful mark making. Reception pupils are taught letter formation explicitly through Read Write Inc. In Key Stage 1, pupils learn correct letter formation, sizing and spacing before progressing to joins. In Key Stage 2, pupils develop fluent joined handwriting and apply it consistently across all subjects.

Whole-School Expectations

- correct posture, pencil grip and paper position are taught and reinforced.
- daily opportunities for handwriting practice.
- consistent use of Read Write Inc. formation language.
- high expectations for presentation.
- regular assessment and intervention where needed.

Inclusion

Appropriate support and adaptations will be provided for pupils experiencing handwriting difficulties to ensure they can access the curriculum successfully.

Monitoring and Assessment

Handwriting is assessed through ongoing teacher assessment, book scrutiny, feedback and targeted intervention. Leaders regularly monitor handwriting standards across the school.

Conclusion

Birkwood Primary School is committed to developing confident, fluent writers through a consistent and progressive approach to handwriting.

Review

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Louise Wilkie (English Lead)	Mr D Wood	Mr P Sabin
20.07.26 <i>J L Wilkie</i>	20.07.26 <i>D. Wood</i>	20.07.26 <i>P. Sabin</i>

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