



## Handwriting Curriculum Intent October 2022

### Overview of progression

Phase 2	Letter formation of graphemes introduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Print</li><li>• Exit strokes for letters ending on the line</li></ul>
Reception	Letter formation of graphemes secured	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'k' without loop</li></ul>
Year 1	Joins for digraphs secured	
Year 2	Joined handwriting introduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Debbie Hepplewhite script</li><li>• 'k' with loop</li></ul>
by Year 6	legibility in joined handwriting when writing at speed secured	

### Handwriting and phonics

Handwriting lessons are always taught in addition to phonics lessons.

In the early years, our teaching of handwriting reflects the letter formation that children encounter in phonics lessons and in their reading. This letter formation is print. At first, children are not taught to join letters or to start every letter 'on the line' with a 'lead-in' because these practices cause unnecessary difficulty for beginners.

Children are introduced to letter formation alongside the teaching of graphemes in Phase 2 of our phonics programme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised.



The formation phrases of this programme are used to teach the correct letter formation for each grapheme and makes the link between the mnemonic and the letter.

For letters that end 'on the line', simple exit strokes are taught. These are for the letters a, d, h, i, k, l, m, n, t and u.

The letter formation of 'k' that children encounter in the formation phrases in Reception is the 'k' without the loop as the DfE has stated that schools should teach print at this phase. This 'k' is evident in all the grapheme cards and displays of our phonics programme and is how children will

encounter 'k' in books. The font used by Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised is Sassoon Infant 6.

### Beginning to join

Children are ready to begin joining their writing once they have secured clear letter formation for each letter.

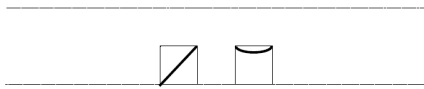
In Year 1, children are taught to join digraphs alongside their learning in phonics.

At this stage, they are introduced to the letter 'k' with the loop. This is the formation that joins most easily and forms part of our school joined handwriting style.

### Joined handwriting

In Year 2, children are taught to use a joined handwriting style throughout their writing. Our school handwriting style follows the Debbie Hepplewhite script.

Our joined handwriting style has two main joins - a diagonal join which starts with the pencil point on the writing line and a 'washing line' join.



At first, all lower case letters are taught as separate shapes starting with the pencil point 'on the line' to form the diagonal lead-in stroke.

The lower case letters are taught in the following sequence:

c	a	d	s	g	o	qu	f
l	t		h	b	k		e
r	n	m	p		i	j	
u	y		v	w	x		z

Descenders of letters f, g, j and y go straight down through the writing line with a thin loop and continue to form the beginning of the diagonal join to the following letter.

The diagonal join and washing line join need to be adjusted for writing the letter e.

Children are taught to think carefully about which part of each letter is the letter shape and which part of the letter is the join.

Not only are children taught to form each individual letter shape with fluency, they are taught to think carefully about the join each letter needs in whole words.

All upper case, or capital, letters are simple print letter shapes which do not join other letters. They start 'from the top' or 'in the air'.

Handwriting should continue to be taught throughout the school to enable all children to secure legibility in joined handwriting when writing at speed by the end of Key Stage 2.

Our No Nonsense Spelling programme integrates activities for handwriting into spelling lessons.

All teaching staff model our school handwriting style whenever writing for the children. It is expected that the handwriting style will be adapted to match the development phase of the children.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq  
Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

1234567890

The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.