

Beardall Fields Primary and Nursery School

Handwriting Policy



At Beardall Fields Primary and Nursery School, we strive to teach our children to take pride in all their work and have developed this policy to ensure the high expectations of all children in all of their work.

Staff will ensure the correct modelling and use of handwriting is adopted consistently across the curriculum.

Each class will carry out a minimum of 30 minutes taught handwriting session per week. This may be as a combined session with phonics/spellings, but must include a formal teaching session and practise time.

www.Cursivewriting.org supports the modelling of individual letter formation through to cursive joined handwriting

In Nursery, the children will start to explore the concept of mark making with a variety of different resources. We encourage the children to hold 'chunky' pencils and give meaning to marks they make.

- Understand simple patterns, including lines, circles and zig zags.
- Begins transition towards a tripod grip.
- Begins to recognise and write their own name with support.

In Reception, the children need to develop their fine motor skills, focusing on dexterity in their hands. The children will complete daily 'Dough Disco' and 'Clever Hands' sessions so they can:

- Form lower case letters correctly
- Form capital letters correctly (by the end of the Reception year)
- Form the numerals 1-10

Year 1 to embed the skills taught in reception to ensure children have

- Correct lower case letter formation
- Capital letter formation
- Number formation

Year 2

- Correct lower and upper case letter formation
- Correct number formation

- Children are introduced to lead in letters and the initial joins linked to phonic/spellings

Year 3

- Embed KS1 skills
- Children's writing shows clear ascenders, descenders and appropriate joins

Year 4 onwards

Continue to develop fluent style, joining all letters

Children embed the joining of letters and will use pens from Y3 onwards for *handwriting* sessions. When the child has developed a fluent, joined style with clear ascenders and descenders, they will then use pens in everyday writing

Vocabulary:

- x height – we are the small guys
- ascenders -we are the tall guys (high in the sky)
- descenders - we are the fall guys, (down below where the wiggly worms go)
- t (so that leaves me, t)
- clock-wise
- anti-clockwise

The rhyme/saying in brackets may be used to support understanding and memory in EYFS and KS1

x height letters – a c e i m n o r s u v w x z

Ascenders – b d f h k l

Descenders – g j p q y

T - t

Policy Reviewed: September 2024