



Lumley Infant and Nursery School Handwriting Policy

Ethos:

Lumley Infant and Nursery School are very proud of our pupil's handwriting and take particular care in our cursive/joined-up handwriting style. Both Lumley Infants School and Junior School use Letter-join as the basis of our handwriting policy, ensuring seamless transition and progression at the end of Key Stage One.

Handwriting is a basic skill that influences the quality of work throughout the curriculum. At the end of Key Stage 2 all pupils should have the ability to produce fluent, legible and, eventually, speedy joined-up handwriting, and to understand the different forms of handwriting used for different purposes.

We aim to make handwriting an automatic process that does not interfere with creative and mental thinking. As a catalyst to speedy handwriting we encourage parents and carers to use the Letter-join resources at home and we offer free access to the Home Edition of Letter-join.

Aims:

We aim for our pupils to develop a neat, legible, speedy handwriting style using continuous cursive letters that leads to producing letters and words automatically in independent writing.

By the end of Year 2 pupils will begin to understand the importance of neat presentation and the need for different letterforms (cursive, printed or capital letters) to help communicate meaning clearly.

Method:

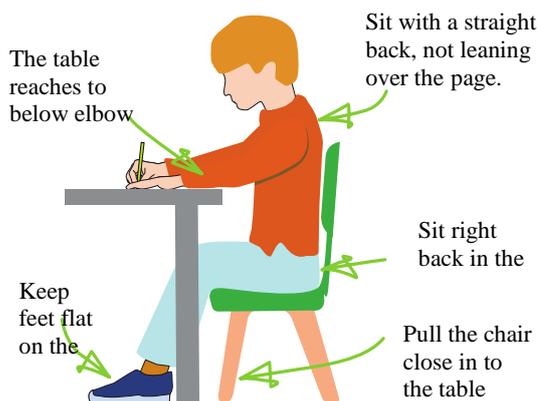
Our teachers are encouraged to use neat, joined-up cursive writing for all handwriting tasks including report writing (when not word-processed), marking and comments.

Pupils should experience coherence and continuity in the learning and teaching of handwriting across all school years and be encouraged to take pride in the presentation of their work. Our aim is for our pupils to develop a handwriting style with a sense of achievement and pride.

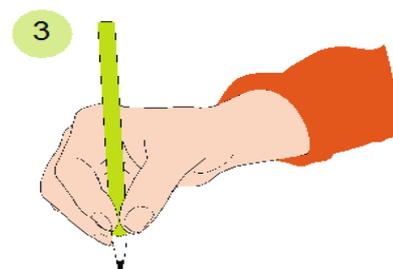
Handwriting is a cross-curriculum task and will be taken into consideration during all lessons. Formal teaching of handwriting is to be carried out regularly and systematically to ensure Key Stage targets are met.

Correct Posture and Pencil Grip:

Pupils should be taught to sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly. Both right and left handed children should be encouraged to use the tripod grip which allows the pen/pencil to be held securely whilst allowing controlled movements of the pen/pencil nib.



- 1) Grip the pencil with your index finger and thumb with the nib pointing away.
- 2) With your free hand, spin the pencil from underneath.
- 3) Use your middle finger to support the underside of the pencil.



Progression:

Within the following academic years children will:

Nursery	Reception	Key Stage One
<p>Practise movements to enhance gross motor skills such as air-writing, pattern making and dancing.</p> <p>Complete exercises to develop fine motor skills such as making marks on paper, whiteboards, blackboards, sand trays, iPads and tablets.</p> <p>Improve fine and gross motor skills by enjoying drawing pre-cursive patterns in a variety of writing materials such as modelling clay, air writing, sand trays, felt pens, crayons, pencils, IWB, iPads/tablets.</p> <p>Use two schemes: 'Squiggle While You Wiggle' and 'Dough Disco' to develop early writing skills.</p>	<p>Hold a pencil in an effective manner for writing and be encouraged to correct any errors in grip or stature.</p> <p>Sit in the correct position and hold a pencil correctly to allow fluid movement of the nib.</p> <p>Understand that letters are written on a base line and that all cursive letters 'start on the line' and 'end with a hook.</p> <p>Begin to form some recognisable joined-up cursive letters, capital letters and numerals.</p> <p>Have an understanding of writing their own name.</p> <p>Have an understanding of different shaped letter families.</p>	<p>Write legibly using upper and lower case letters with correct joins.</p> <p>Ensure that letters sit on the base line and are consistent in size with ascenders and descenders that are the correct length and formation.</p> <p>Leave the correct space between words.</p> <p>Form capital letters correctly and use where appropriate.</p> <p>Form numerals correctly, that are consistent in size and sit on the base line.</p> <p>Begin to form printed letters and understand when they are to be used.</p> <p>Improve the speed of writing and begin to write automatically so promoting creativity in independent writing.</p>

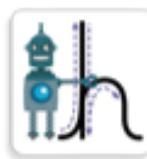
Letter Families and Letter Styles:

When teaching individual letters teachers will use the phrase "let's go" at the beginning of each letter. This will also be linked with the RWI mantras. For example when writing a 'm'. Pupils will be encouraged to say "let's go, Maisie, mountain, mountain".



Long Ladder Letters

i l t j u y



One Armed Robot Letters

h n m r b p k



Curly Caterpillar Letters

c o a d g q e



Zigzag Monster Letters

w n x z f s