

## Handwriting

### Pointers

- Handwriting should be completed weekly whole class and daily for children struggling. For struggling children focus on letters they are having particular difficulty with.
- Always start with ccc
- Ensure children are upright, facing the board and are sitting so that they are not knocking into a partner - left/right handers
- Pencil should be sharp enough and long enough
- Children's feet should be on the ground
- Use language - upper/lower case, ascending/descending letters
- Remember boys' muscles for fine motor skill develop later than girls, but should be fully developed by year 2. However, if they have struggled in the infants they may be turned off from writing.
- Many children will not write in the handwriting style unless it is expected.
- Difficulties normally come from letter formation, so children need to be watched not just left to get on with it.

### Pre-writing exercises

- Use different media to write in eg sand, paint etc and use different size paint brushes, sticks etc. Children can write out their name or just create shapes.
- Colouring in between lines, so any type of colouring, painting etc
- Sewing, threading etc anything where the fine motor skills are used

### Scheme of Work

We follow the Berol cursive handwriting scheme. All writing starts with warm up ccc. Children should be shown how to form each letter, how it is joined to other letters and how it looks within a word.

1. Letters which extend the c shape - a, d, g
2. Developing ascending loop - e, l, h, b
3. Tricky letters - k, f. Also join with a, o and c
4. Middle letters - m, n, s and r. Focus on how they join
5. Descending letters - y, j, p qu. Identify that i and j are dotted after word is completed
6. Compare u and v. How to join v and w to other letters
7. Focus on t - crossing after word written and three-quarter length ascending letter
8. Capital letters - A-D
9. Capital letters - E-H
10. Capital letters - I-L
11. Capital letters - M- P
12. Capital letters - Q -Z
13. Number formation 0-9
14. Speed writing - children to be given a set time to write neatly, but under a time pressure.