



Handwriting Policy

What is this policy for?

This policy sets out how we teach handwriting in line with the legal requirements of the National Curriculum 2014. It describes how our provision for writing allows all pupils to develop key life skills that let them express their ideas and opinions.

The vision for handwriting

At Becket Primary all children will be able to write legibly in both joined and printed styles with increasing fluency and speed. Children will use different forms of handwriting for different purposes and present their work attractively.

When is writing taught and learned?

In Foundation Stage, handwriting is taught alongside fine motor skills and letter formation practice.

In Key Stage 1, handwriting is taught at least twice a week. In KS2, it is taught based on children's needs.

How is handwriting taught and learned?

In handwriting lessons, teachers model pencil grip, letter formation and join. The size of letters and spacing between words will also be addressed. They will discuss correct posture and body position when writing. In lessons where writing takes place, children will be reminded of correct letter formation and joins. In maths lessons, correct number formation will be modelled and if necessary practiced.

All teachers will model joined writing when teaching and when writing comments in books.

What do we learn in handwriting?

In Foundation stage and Year 1, letter name, shape and formation is learnt, as well as number name and formation. Children are taught correct pencil grip and how to sit at a table correctly. In Year 2, the 4 basic joins are introduced starting with just joining two letters, before moving on to words. By the end of Key Stage 1, all children will form all letters at the correct size and leave the correct spacing between words.

In Key Stage 2, children continue to develop their joining skills, building on stamina and fluency. They will develop their own style of join and use it in all their writing. Pencil grip and posture continue to be taught and monitored.

How do we measure success in handwriting?

Formative assessment is used by teachers daily to plan for next lessons.

In KS2, children have the opportunity to be awarded their Handwriting Pen License through developing neat and consistently joined handwriting that can be seen in all written pieces of work.



We care. We learn. We achieve.

Resources

Triangular grips are made available to children with the relevant need.

Safety and risk

To avoid any strain to newly developing muscles during handwriting children are taught how to sit and hold writing equipment comfortably to find their own unique writing position.

Community involvement and collaborations

Throughout the year children have the opportunity to share their work through celebration assemblies and on displays.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The English team will monitor the standards of handwriting across the school. This will occur through a range of activities of monitoring planning, observation of lessons, work sampling and pupil interviews.

Information gathered is shared with the leadership team and through the link governor for English.

Policy written: November 2020

Policy reviewed: November 2023

Next Review date: November 2025

Ratified by the Local Governing Body: December 2023