



Parent Pocket Guide

Handwriting



Monkshouse Primary School

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Handwriting

Children are encouraged to produce a neat, fluent and legible style of handwriting. The style of handwriting across the school will gradually change, from Year 2 onwards depending on the development of the child. Teachers and teaching assistants will model the joins to those children who need this input. Children in younger year groups can focus on mark making and a range of writing skills and enjoyment without the added pressure of forming cursive letters. Even in this technological, computer-literate age, good handwriting remains fundamental to our children's educational achievement.

5 stages of Basic Organisational Structure of Handwriting

Readiness for handwriting; gross and fine motor skills leading to pattern and letter formation (EYFS, 3-5yrs)

Beginning to join (KS1 6-7yrs)

Securing the joins (Yr2 & LKS2 6-9 yrs)

Practising speed and fluency (KS2 7-9yrs)

Presentational Skills (UPKS2 10-11yrs)



HOW CAN I HELP?

Firstly of all you can encourage your child to hold their pen/pencil correctly; thumb and forefinger gripping the pencil and middle finger supporting.

Secondly make it fun!

Below are examples of activities that you could do with your child as appropriate to their age and ability:

- Air writing (imaginary letters or words in the air)
- Writing on a partner's back (partner feels for the correct pattern in letters and words)
- Sand writing (letters or words in sand or loose dirt)
- Paint writing (on an easel or outside on fences or playground using water)
- Leaf writing (shuffle feet in fallen leaves to make letters or words)
- Chalk writing
- Tracing letter/words written on paper
- Copying letters/words written on paper
- Independently translating printed text into cursive handwriting script.
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