



Happy, Healthy, High-Achieving

Caldecote Primary School
Handwriting Policy
February 2023

This Policy is carried out within the context and spirit of the school's Mission Statement which is to be a 'Happy, Health and High-Achieving' school. It supports and reinforces our aims, where we value all children equally and as individuals.

Our aims at Caldecote Primary School are that all pupils:

- develop their fine motor skills and ability to write legibly with ease, fluency and speed.
- learn joined handwriting, which teaches pupils to join letters to make words as a series of flowing movements and patterns.
- make links between handwriting and spelling.
- produce written work that they are proud of and is very well presented.

Introduction

In order to produce a fluent, consistently formed style of joined handwriting with equal spacing between the letters and words by the end of KS2, early skills are promoted and developed throughout school life. These skills include:

- Fine motor and dexterity skills (e.g. use of scissors, play dough, eating with knives and forks), to aid fluent movement
- Correct pencil grip
- Correct posture
- Positioning of the writing paper
- Organisation of the writing space.

Joined handwriting is part of a dyslexic-friendly classroom. Teachers support the needs of all children, including SEND and the left-handed, adapting teaching and resources as needed. Children will have regular handwriting sessions using appropriately prepared resources, in the agreed handwriting style. In Caldecote school, in Reception and Year 1 we follow **Little Wandle** letter formation. In Year 2 pupils progress to **Teach Handwriting, Route A Version 3** which is then used across Key Stage 2.

Progression

Foundation Stage

The emphasis at this stage is on movement. Learned at this early stage, letter formation becomes automatic and has a profound influence on later fluency and legibility. In the pre-communicative stage pupils explore with mark-making and writing. These experiments are recognised and praised as an important stage in a child's understanding that marks on paper convey meaning. Pupils are given the opportunity to experiment with a range of writing materials and implements and a multi-sensory approach is used to help pupils feel the movement in the hand. Correct letter orientation, formation and proportion are taught in line with the school's agreed handwriting scheme.

Key Stage 1

Building on the Foundation Stage, pupils at Key Stage 1 develop a legible style and will begin to use joined handwriting in Year 2.

Key Stage 2

Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will use joined handwriting in all written work with pencils. All pupils will use a pen during Year 6. Pencils will be used in Maths or for drawing and completion of diagrams.

Handwriting and Reading

In school, children are exposed to both joined and print styles, as well as commercial print. They develop awareness for reading print and joined writing through their learning, through prompts around school and through teachers' modelling of writing.

Teacher Feedback

When marking or writing comments, teachers will model the school's preferred joined handwriting style, which is fully legible by pupils and adults.

Review

The Policy statement will be reviewed in line with the rolling programme of policy reviews.

Headteacher:

Date:.....

Chair of Governors:

Date:

