



# Handwriting Policy



*Caring, Sharing, Preparing for Life*

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This policy has been reviewed and adopted by St Erth Governing Body	
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# Handwriting Policy

At St Erth we believe that neat, well formed handwriting and presentation of written work helps raise standards as the pupils take pride in, and have a sense of ownership, of their work.

In EYFS and Year 1 the children are taught to form letters using a cursive script alongside their learning of phonics using St Erth Phonics, Letters and Sounds programme of learning. If individual children are not ready for cursive handwriting then they are taught non-cursive letter formation and are introduced to the cursive script when it is appropriate to that individual.

Towards the end of Year 1, depending on their ability, to Year 6, the children are taught to, and encouraged to, join this cursive script in all their writing.

Handwriting is taught regularly through short, focused sessions and may be linked with spelling, grammar or phonics objectives. Teaching generally occurs outside of Literacy lessons, although shared and guided writing also provides additional opportunities for modelling and monitoring of handwriting. In Lower Key Stage 2, children start their day with handwriting practise using their fortnightly spelling words. The focus on handwriting is more in EYFS and KS1 to ensure this fundamental skill is embedded to make writing an easier process as children go through the school.

## Cursive script:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M  
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l m  
n o p q r s t u v w x y z  
The quick brown fox jumps  
over the lazy dog.

Some individual children have focused intervention and support for handwriting. This is supported with exploring ways to support individuals, for example, using different pencil grips, writing in pen, having slanted desk supports to write on. A very individual and personal approach is taken to handwriting across the school.

## Letter groups:

Wavy-whoosh letters:	c a o q g d s
Diagonal-whoosh letters:	e f
Rocket-whoosh letters:	r m n h b k p l i j t u y
Little-whoosh letters:	v w x z

The children are taught these letters in the order they learn them in St Erth phonics:

### Phase 2:

s a t p i n m d g o c k e u r h b  
f l

### Phase 3:

j v w x y z q

All resources in St Erth Phonics, Letters and Sounds are in non-cursive and cursive font to support the children forming cursive script.

See attached letter formation rhymes and cards used throughout the school.

# Teaching and Learning of Handwriting

From day one, as soon as children pick up a writing utensil, correct pencil grip is taught and encouraged. Mark making is encouraged from day one and always available through continuous provision activities.

In EYFS, children have daily teaching, support to practise and intervention in letter formation and in continuous provision, there are always opportunities for children to write what they choose. There are also guided writing opportunities for children to access throughout the day alongside fine-motor skill activities daily to build strength and precision. As digraphs and trigraphs are taught, children are encouraged to join these to emphasise the sound and also the motion of joining letters together.

Capital letters are taught in the summer term in Reception.

In Key Stage 1, children revisit learning the letter formation of each letter through phonics when a new sound is taught – digraphs and trigraphs are taught joined together. Daily practise of handwriting is part of phonics sessions. Children are observed/ assessed to distinguish any children who need interventions on specific letters and that interventions takes place on the same day or the next day. Fine motor skill activities are incorporated throughout the year.

In Year 3 and 4, children have writing practise daily linked to their spellings to practise letter formation and support handwriting becoming fluent and 'natural' alongside embedding spelling words and new vocabulary. This happens twice a week in Year 5 and 6.

## **Transcription and dictation:**

Throughout the year groups EYFS – Year 6, dictation activities are used to develop the skills of transcription. During the Reception year (and only when children are able), children write captions and short sentences to support their learning in phonics, spelling and handwriting. In KS1, as part of our phonics scheme, there are opportunities for dictation activities. From Year 1 – 6, as part of the spelling programme we use, children use dictation to support handwriting, grammar and spelling.

## Intervention support:

Where appropriate, handwriting interventions happens one-to-one or in small groups depending on the need of the child. This is adult-led and daily. Depending on the individual, groups of letters are focused on, every letter is re-taught and practised, fine-motor skills are developed. Children are also re-taught the correct pencil-grip if this is incorrect.

Visual aid and prompts are in all classrooms for children to refer to when needed to support correct letter formation.

## Resources to support Teaching and Learning

- All resources linked to phonics scheme support cursive handwriting.
- The Collins Primary Focus resources support the learning of cursive script.
- Cursive script spelling lists developed for Key Stage 2.
- Cursive fonts purchased and on all teacher laptops so resources can be adapted.
- Bank of resources available to support all letters in staff shared folder.
- Visuals: letter rhymes, placemats, book marks and posters are available on shared drive.
- All TAs have handwriting resources as part of their intervention toolkit.
- mark making and fine motor skill activities built up: resources in shared drive and fine-motor skills equipment available in EYFS for all to use.

Phase 2

Set 1: s a t p  
Set 2: i n m d  
Set 3: g o c k  
Set 4: c k e u r  
Set 5: h b f ff  
l ll ss



Wavy whoosh!  
Slide down the spider's web.



Wavy whoosh!  
The ants go round the apple and down to the ground|



Rocket whoosh!  
Down, tickle the foot and across the toes



Rocket whoosh!  
Down the stem, back up and over the poppy



Rocket whoosh!  
Down the icicle. Don't forget the snowball!



Rocket whoosh!  
Down to the rockpool, up and over the nipper's back



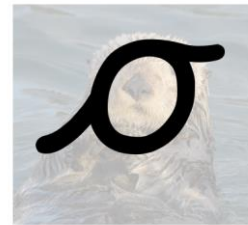
Rocket whoosh!  
Down, up, over the monkey, up, over the monkey



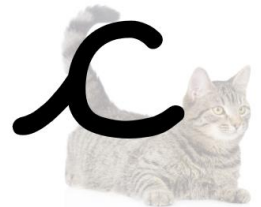
Wavy whoosh!  
Around the duck, take off and land



Wavy whoosh!  
Around the gull's head, swoop down around its tummy



Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face



Wavy whoosh!  
Curl around the cat's tail



Rocket whoosh!  
Down to the feet, back up around his head and kick



Wavy whoosh!  
Curl around the cat's tail then...  
Rocket whoosh! Down to the feet, back up around his head and kick



Whoosh!  
Up and around the elephant's trunk



Rocket whoosh!  
Down, under the worm, up and back to the ground.



Rocket whoosh!  
Down, up and over the  
rose



Rocket whoosh!  
Down to his feet and  
back over his tummy



Rocket whoosh to the  
top deck, down and  
around the wheel



Whoosh, up and  
around Fred's tongue,  
down to the lily pad  
and swoop up a fly



Whoosh, up and  
around Fred's tongue,  
down to the lily pad  
and swoop up a fly  
(REPEAT)



Rocket whoosh, down  
the stick and flick



Rocket whoosh, down  
the stick and flick|  
(REPEAT)



Wavy whoosh, slide  
down the spider's web  
(REPEAT)

Phase 3

Set 1: j r w x

Set 2: y z zz qu

Set 3: ch sh th

ng

Set 4: ai ee igh

oa

Set 5: oo or ar or

Set 6: ur ow oi

ear

Set 7: air, ure, er



Rocket whoosh!  
Down the tentacle and swoop. Don't forget the eye.



Rocket whoosh!  
Diagonal down to the wheel and up.



Rocket whoosh!  
Diagonal down, up, down, up ride the wave.



Rocket whoosh!  
Under the yak's smile, yo-yo to the ground and swoop up



Rocket whoosh!  
Diagonal down the fin, lift off and cross the other fin.



Rocket whoosh!  
Along the zebra's back, diagonal down to the feet and along



Rocket whoosh!  
Along the zebra's back, diagonal down to the feet and along.  
REPEAT



Wavy whoosh all around the queteal's head, down its tail and flick then Rocket whoosh!  
Down, under the worm, up and back to the ground.

Chirpy chicks chattering away 

ch

Wavy whoosh!  
Curl around the cat's tail  
Rocket whoosh!  
Down to hippos feet and back over his tummy

Shiny shells shimmer 


sh

Wavy whoosh!  
Slide down the spider's web.  
Rocket whoosh! Down to hippos feet and back over his tummy

Three Thieves 


th

Rocket whoosh!  
Down, tickle the foot and across the toes  
Rocket whoosh! Down to hippos feet and back over his tummy.

Ding dong the bell rings 


ng

Rocket whoosh!  
Down to the rockpool, up and over the nipper's back.  
Wavy whoosh!  
Around the gull's head, swoop down around its tummy

On the snail train 


ai

Wavy whoosh! The ants go round the apple and down to the ground  
Rocket whoosh! Down the icicle. Don't forget the snowball!

Can you see the green tree? 

ee

Whoosh!  
Up and around the elephant's trunk  
REPEAT

Fright in the night 

igh

Rocket whoosh! Down the icicle, don't forget the snowball!  
Wavy whoosh! Around the gull's head, swoop down around its tummy  
Rocket whoosh! Down to his feet and back over his tummy



Float the boat



oa

Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face.  
ALONG  
The ants go round the  
apple and down to the  
ground.

Look in a book



oo

Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face.  
ALONG  
Back around Olly's face.

Zoom to the  
moon



oo

Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face.  
ALONG  
Back around Olly's face.

Star chart



ar

Wavy whoosh!  
The ants go round the  
apple and down to the  
ground  
Rocket whoosh!  
Down, up and over the rose

A short storm



or

Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face.  
Rocket whoosh!  
Down, up and over the  
rose

Curve and curl



ur

Rocket whoosh!  
Down, under the worm, up  
and back to the ground.  
Rocket whoosh!  
Down, up and over the rose

How now brown  
cow?



ow

Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face.  
ALONG  
Diagonal down, up, down,  
up ride the wave.

Coil in the soil



oi

Wavy whoosh!  
Back around Olly's face.  
ALONG  
Down the icicle.  
Don't forget the snowball!

Oh dear! Are we  
near?



ear

Whoosh! Up and around the  
elephant's trunk.  
Wavy whoosh! The ants go  
round the apple and down to  
the ground,  
Rocket whoosh! Down, up and  
over the rose.

A hairy fairy



air

Wavy whoosh! The ants go  
round the apple and down to  
the ground.  
Rocket whoosh!  
Down the icicle.  
Don't forget the snowball!  
Rocket whoosh! Down, up and  
over the rose.

Find a cure!



ure

Down, under the worm, up  
and back to the ground.  
Rocket whoosh! Down, up  
and over the rose.  
Whoosh! Up and around the  
elephant's trunk

Pitter patter



er

Whoosh!  
Up and around the  
elephant's trunk  
Rocket whoosh! Down, up  
and over the rose.