

# HARRINGTON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

## HANDWRITING POLICY



REVIEWED:

March 2023

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

March 2026

Adopted:

# Handwriting

## Introduction

At Harrington Hill Primary school, it is our aim that all children have neat and legible handwriting.

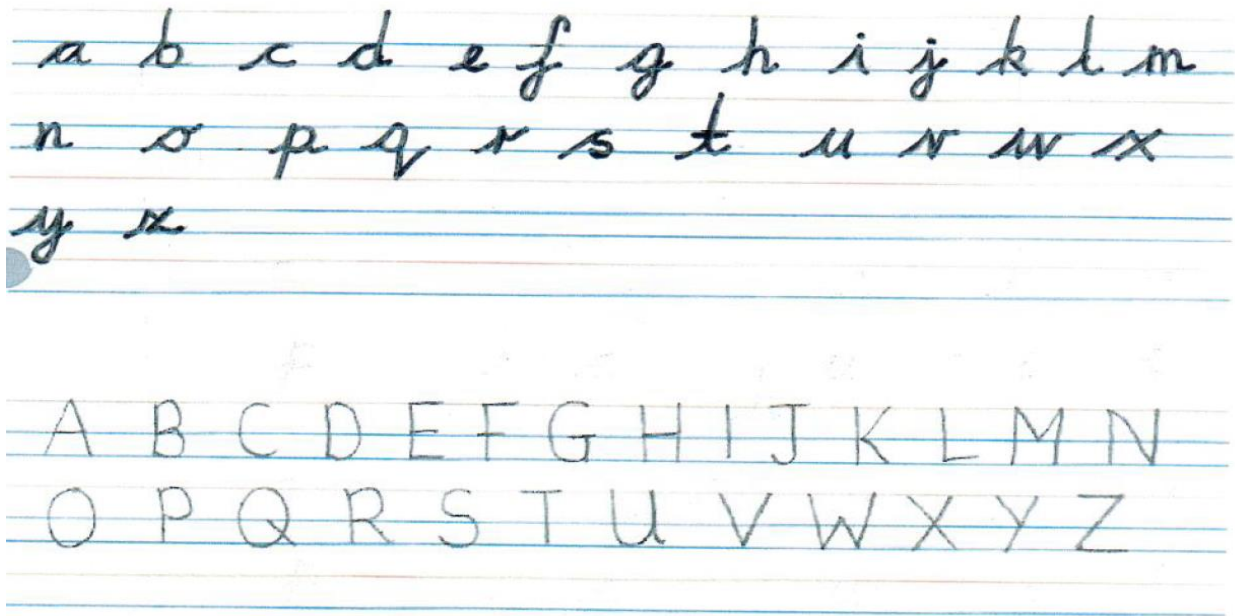
It is the expectation that children develop independent handwriting skills, which they will then apply to their independent writing across the curriculum.

We use a 'Continuous Cursive Handwriting' style in order to support children to achieve this.

## Continuous Cursive Handwriting

Continuous cursive handwriting teaches pupils to join letters in words as a series of continuous flowing movements or patterns. With the exception of words containing 'x', all words can be written without taking the pencil off the page. The style is quick and easy to learn, particularly when it is practised from the Early Years up. The final product is fast and neat.

Year 4 Child



## Teaching/Modelling Handwriting

It is expected that handwriting is taught in every year group across the school, with greater time spent when children are first learning basic letter shapes. Handwriting is a motor activity and needs to be taught.

The way in which adults write will influence the way that children write. Therefore, to ensure continuity marking in books, writing on boards and displays should reflect continuous cursive handwriting.

## Ways of Working

As each of the letters is introduced, words containing those letters are practised. Children begin to make the link between handwriting, writing and spelling.

This is the recommended order of teaching letters:

Straight letters

i l t u

2 o'clock's

c a d g q s

Tunnel letters

n m h b p

Top joiners

o r v w

Square letters

x z

Odd letters

f k j y e

All letters start on the line with an 'in-stroke' and finish with an 'exit-point'.

We do not join capital letters or to a capital letter.

## Pencil Hold, Seating & Paper Position

- It is important that children sit correctly in an upright position.
- Both feet should be touching the floor, with the non-writing hand resting on the desk.
- Children should hold the pencil between their thumb and index finger. A pencil grip may be necessary for children with poor grip.
- Left-handed children should sit to the left of right-handed children, to avoid their writing arms from bumping each other.
- It may help left-handers to sit with their paper at a slanted angle.
- A left-hander may also benefit from holding the pencil further up the shaft.

## Delivering Handwriting

### EYFS

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage will be taught how to write the letters through:

- Literacy carpet sessions
- Phonics lessons/groups
- Modelled/shared writing
- Spring Term – Letter formation according to letter families daily

### Key Stage 1

Teachers in Year 1 and 2 will teach a handwriting lesson once a day for a minimum of ten minutes.

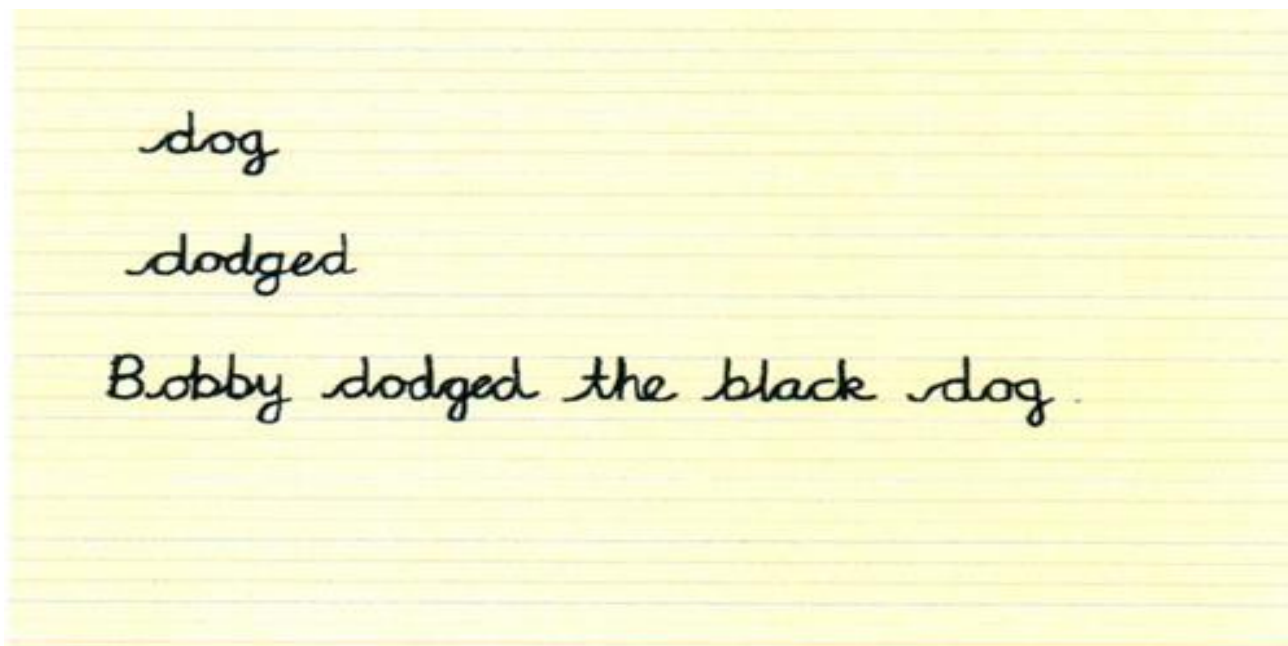
### Key Stage 2

Teachers in Year 3-6 will teach handwriting three times a week for a minimum of ten minutes. Handwriting will then be practiced at the start of Literacy Lessons when children write and re-write 3 vocabulary words for the writing topic.

### KS1 and KS2

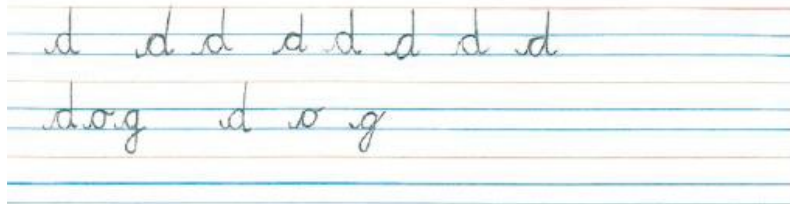
First use the school spelling scheme to select words for your handwriting sessions. Through the ITP or 2handwrite teach the words and how to correctly spell and write them. Below is an example of how you can use spelling to differentiate your handwriting three ways:

The short 'o' sound

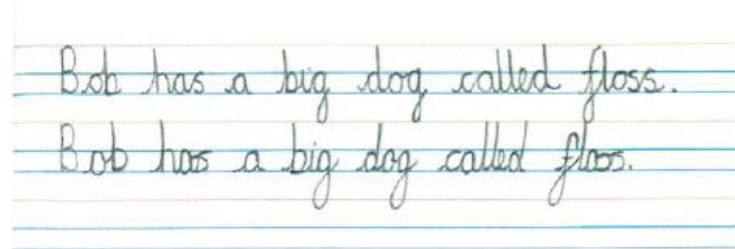


## Examples of Children's Work

Here are some examples of children's handwriting:



Jill (Year 1, 2011)



Antonia (Year 3, 2011)

The birds that beaded branches have flown. The stars are seeded but not grown till the eye of the moon through curtains of cloud looks down to greet, lamplight blossoms, heads bowed in the desert of street.

Abigail (Year 5, 2011)