



At St Peter's Brafferton, we are a nurturing community where every person can **flourish**. We aspire to be the best in all we do, promoting **lifelong learners** who are curious, compassionate, and courageous. We **value** every person and every opportunity to 'let our light shine'.

*"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

— Matthew 5:16

## Handwriting Policy



*Note: Attach printouts of alphabet sheets in your chosen fonts to show the letter shapes you have chosen for f, k, w, x and z. Letter-join Print Plus (if using a printed font) and your chosen cursive font.*

## Handwriting Policy

We are very proud of our pupils' handwriting and take particular care with our handwriting style, subsequently, handwriting is taught explicitly and regularly across the school beginning in reception in addition to writing in phonics lessons. By using Letter-join's handwriting scheme as the basis of our handwriting policy and the Writing Framework guidance all National Curriculum requirements are covered through a structured teaching programme.

### Objective

Handwriting is a basic skill which influences the quality of work throughout the curriculum. By the end of Key Stage 2 pupils should have the ability to produce fluent, legible and speedy joined handwriting, and to understand that different styles of handwriting are used for different purposes.

Our intention is to make handwriting an automatic process that does not interfere with creative and mental thinking.

### Aims

- Develop neat, legible and speedy handwriting where letters and words are automatically produced in independent writing.
- Establish and maintain high expectations for the presentation of written work.
- Understand, by the end of Year 6, the importance of neat presentation and the need for different handwriting styles (joined, printed or capital letters) to help communicate meaning clearly.



### Expectations

All teaching staff to model the style of handwriting chosen for each year group in our school in all their handwriting, whether on whiteboards, displays or in pupils' books.

#### Consistency throughout the school

Pupils should experience coherence and continuity in the teaching and learning of handwriting across all school years and be encouraged to take pride in their work. We want to help pupils enjoy learning and developing their handwriting, so they feel a sense of achievement and pride.

### Handwriting frequency

Handwriting is a cross-curricular task and will be taken into consideration during all lessons. Formal teaching of handwriting will be carried out regularly and systematically to ensure key stage targets are met throughout learning, as emphasised in the 2025 Writing Framework.

### Pens and pencils

Pupils progress through a range of writing tools such as chunky crayons, chalk or soft pencils while developing a secure grip before exploring with large scale drawing and writing to build fine motor skills, then moving to smaller, more precise writing tools.

When their fine motor skills are established, pupils may progress to using a handwriting pen.

## Inclusion

For children who experience handwriting difficulties due to fine motor development, including those who are left-handed and/or with special educational needs, appropriate additional support will be put in place. Letter-join's Lesson Planners include differentiation activities for extra practice/challenge and their Handwriting Recovery Programme is used as an intervention for our key stage 2 pupils to give structured support if they find handwriting challenging.



## Key Stage Teaching

### Reception Early Years

We teach short, daily handwriting lessons, which may include:

- warm-up activities to get ready for handwriting
- air writing, pattern making and physical activities to develop gross motor skills
- correct sitting position and pencil grip for writing
- mark making on paper, whiteboards, sensory trays and tablets, etc. to develop and refine fine motor skills
- the introduction of letter shapes, their sounds, formation and vocabulary.

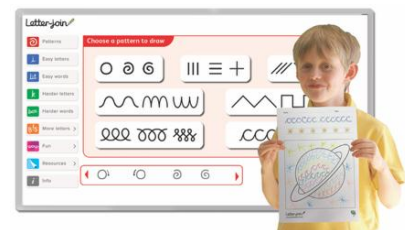


### Module 1 Lesson Planner

**Module 1 Print** teaches handwriting using a printed font style.

This module is divided into three sections covering:

- pre-writing patterns
- easy letters and words
- harder letters and words.



At the end of this module children should be able to recognise and form all lowercase letters of the alphabet in a printed style.

At the end of this module children should be able to recognise and form all lowercase letters of the alphabet in a cursive style. They should know how to write words using the correct joining techniques (unless using a pre-cursive font for learning letter shapes).



## Key Stage 1: Years 1 and 2

Teaching handwriting is three times a week including:

- continuing with gross and fine motor skills activities
- practise to strengthening handwriting learning
- learning where and when to use capitals and printed letters, reinforced by practice
- practising handwriting with spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG).



### Module 2 Lesson Planner: Year 1

**Module 2 Print to Cursive** teaches how to correctly use and write capital letters, printed letters, numbers, punctuation, maths symbols and other symbols. Children are then introduced to pre-writing patterns and cursive letters in preparation for Module 3 when they are required to start joining their handwriting.

This module is divided into three sections covering:

- warm-up activities, letter families and capital letters
- the uses of printed letters
- numbers and symbols
- the introduction of pre-cursive patterns and cursive letters.

On completion of this module, children should be confident in writing all capital and printed letters, numbers and symbols and have some familiarity with the orientation of cursive letters.

On completion of this module, children should be confident in writing all capital and printed letters, numbers and symbols and start to become familiar with their use.



## Module 3 Lesson Planner: Year 2

**Module 3 Starting Cursive** introduces children to cursive letters and how to join them which is reinforced with regular practice in letter formation and joining.

The sections in this module cover:

- cursive letters and words
- revisiting letter families
- high frequency words
- joining techniques
- sequencing sentences
- dictation exercises
- times table facts
- spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) practice.

With regular handwriting practice throughout this module, children should now be developing fluency and speed in their writing.


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- letter with regular handwriting practice throughout this module, children should now be developing fluency and speed of their writing.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_


**Sequencing Sentences 1: 1**  
Rewrite these sentences in the correct sequence:

Meg gave it to Mum.  
She picked the flower.  
Meg saw a flower.




Meg saw a flower.  
She picked the flower.  
Meg gave it to Mum.

The sun was warm.  
He fell asleep.  
Grandad sat in a chair.




Grandad sat in a chair.  
The sun was warm.  
He fell asleep.

He got wet and muddy.  
Spot jumped in a puddle.  
It was raining.



It was raining.  
Spot jumped in a puddle.  
He got wet and muddy.

Letter-join 



## Upper Key Stage 2: Years 5 and 6

More advanced handwriting techniques will be taught during two weekly lessons:

- reinforcing joined handwriting across the curriculum
- form-filling/labelling using printed and capital letters
- dictation exercises promoting quick note-taking and speedy handwriting writing skills
- SATs spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) practice.

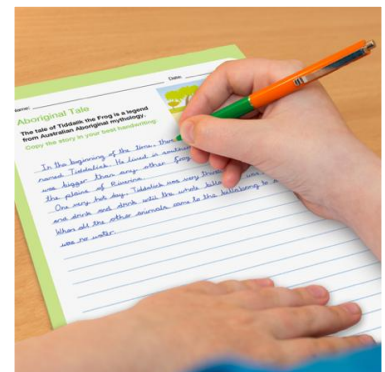


### Module 6 Lesson Planner: Year 5

**Module 6** continues to build on combining fluent handwriting with other subjects across the curriculum.

In this module, learners will have plenty of opportunity to develop the skills and stamina needed to write at length, with accurate spelling and punctuation. With Letter-join's wide range of resources they will be able to work towards producing consistently neat and well-presented handwriting in all curriculum subjects.

On completing this module, children should be producing joined writing automatically, enabling them to focus on the content of their work rather than the process of writing.



### Module 7 Lesson Planner: Year 6

**Module 7** presents learners with a range of tasks where they need to decide on an appropriate style of handwriting. Promoting speedy, fluent writing continues to be a strong feature. Challenging dictation exercises help refine pupils' revising and checking skills as well as boosting their handwriting speed, stamina and fluency. A range of curriculum-based worksheets offer opportunities to practise writing at length.

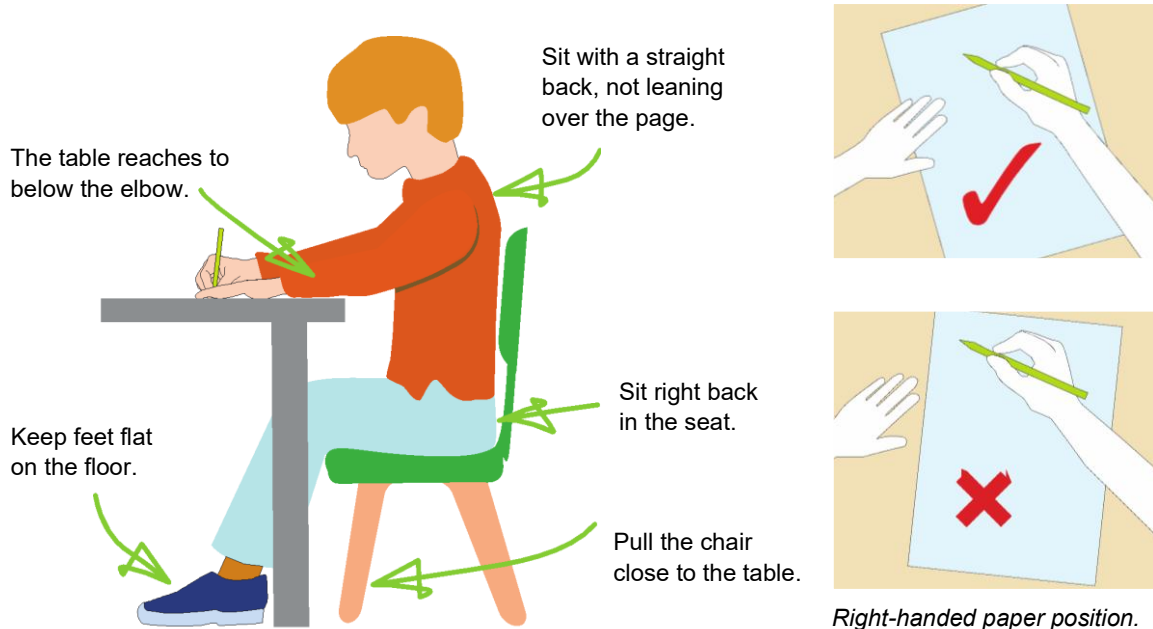
Module 7 also contains a series of worksheets to support SATs SPaG revision. They are designed to support pupils in meeting expected standards for spelling, punctuation and grammar, with lots of SPaG preparation and plenty of handwriting practice.

By the end of this module, children should be able to adapt their handwriting for a range of tasks and purposes and to create different effects and styles. They should be clear about what standard of handwriting is appropriate for a particular task, for example, quick notes, a final handwritten version, capital letters or an unjoined style.

## Correct posture, pencil grip and paper position for handwriting

Pupils are taught to sit correctly at a table and hold a pencil comfortably and correctly.

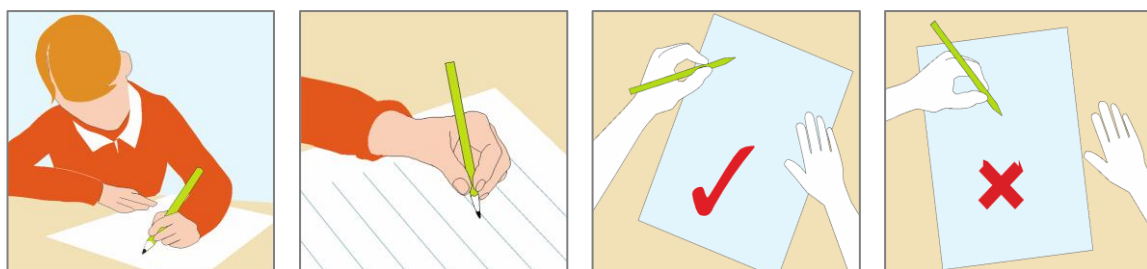
### Sitting position



### Left-handed writer

Left-handed children may find it difficult to follow the movements of right-handed teachers as they model letter formation (and vice versa). Teachers will demonstrate to left-handers on an individual or group basis.

- Left-handed pupils should sit to the left of a right-handed child so that they are not competing for space.
- Pupils should position the paper/book to their left side and slanted, as shown.
- Pencils should not be held too close to the point as this can interrupt pupils' line of vision.
- Extra practice with left-to-right exercises may be necessary before pupils write left-to-right automatically.



## The Tripod Pencil Grip

Both right and left-handed children should use the tripod grip which enables the pen/pencil to be held securely whilst allowing controlled movements of the pen/pencil nib.

We use the Tripod Grip rhyme:

### Right-handed pencil grip



Point away the pencil,



Pinch it near the tip,



Lift it off the table,

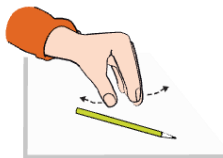


Spin it round...



and grip.

### Left-handed pencil grip



Point away the pencil,



Pinch it near the tip,



Lift it off the table,



Spin it round...



and grip.