

Handwriting at Cranford Park

Year R – letter formation is taught using Read, Write, Inc letters and phrases in the phonics lessons. Children should be taught to use the correct handwriting grip and formation.

Year 1 – uses the letter formation taught through RWI

Statutory requirements

Handwriting

Pupils should be taught to:

- sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place
- form capital letters
- form digits 0-9
- understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

Year 2 – taught cursive letters, starting to form their letters from the line. These are the word mats we have been using in school.

Statutory requirements

Handwriting

Pupils should be taught to:

- form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another
- start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined
- write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg

Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu

Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Year 3 and 4 - cursive letters and beginning to join.

Statutory requirements

Handwriting

Pupils should be taught to:

- use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined
- increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch].

Years 5 and 6 use joined cursive writing – they may choose not to join from a b, s etc

Statutory requirements

Handwriting and presentation

Pupils should be taught to:

- write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by:
 - choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters
 - choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.

Letter families

Letters will be taught using letter families – these are letters grouped together using a similar formation

1. *c a d g q e s f o*

2. *l i t j y u*

3. *r b n h m k p*

4. *v w x z* (use the *x* in the above word mat)

In years R, 1, and 2 handwriting should be taught daily

In years 3, 4 and 5 – three times a week

All staff should be picking up and correcting handwriting in any lesson taught. Staff should be correcting pencil grips and teaching the correct hold especially in EYFS and KS1.