

Our Handwriting Style

We have introduced a cursive style of handwriting at St. Winefride's. You may have some questions about this.

Why is handwriting important?

Even in these days of digital text, handwriting is a really important skill which is vital to good progress through school. If children can write fluently, they are able to concentrate their effort into the content of the work and not labour over letter formation.

My child has difficulty with handwriting, will this help?

Research has shown that using a flowing cursive style helps children with difficulties such as dyslexia. If you look carefully at the letter formation sheet you will see that all the letters start on the same side of the word. This really helps with forming letters and increasing fluency. This will mean those children who currently have difficulties in joining letters will be able to write in a neat joined script. It also helps children who sometimes reverse their letters or confuse similar letters such as *b* and *d*.

Are there any other benefits?

From the earliest days children in their phonic lessons (sounds and letters) will write some letters already joined eg *sh th ch igh*. This reinforces that these are actually only one sound.

There has been lots of research into the link between handwriting and spelling. Children not only learn the order of letters when they spell but also the shape and flow of a word.

How can I help my child at home?

Please take time to look at the sheet showing the way the letters are formed. You could practise together! Your child's teacher will let you know when your child is ready to join letters or to use a pen at school.

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