

Shelton Infant School

Handwriting progression

Throughout the school, we will consistently refer to our handwriting style as

'The Shelton Script'.

An example of this script will be displayed in each classroom.

Letters will be referred to as the 'underground, forest and sky letters' in all classes.

Nursery

Shelton Script will be on display and there will be a wide range of high-quality mark making activities in the continuous provision both inside and outside every day.

Children will participate in a wide range of activities to develop gross motor control – (e.g.) painting with large brushes and buckets of water, drawing in the air with wands etc.

Children will participate in a wide variety of 'Funky Finger' activities to develop fine motor control.

Children will begin to trace over letter patterns and letters in glitter, sand etc.

Children will be taught the 'Nip, Flip, Grip' song and encourage to hold their mark making tools correctly.

Staff will talk to the children about starting their writing in the top left-hand corner.

Children will have their own name cards to trace over and copy write their name (these cards will have pictures on at the start of the year to help children to identify them, pictures will be cut off towards the end of the year).

Staff will talk about the letter formation rhymes with children who are at the appropriate level.

Reception

Shelton Script will be on display and there will be a wide range of high-quality mark making activities in the continuous provision both inside and outside every day.

Children will participate in a wide variety of 'Funky Finger' activities to develop fine motor control.

Staff will talk to the children about starting their writing in the top left-hand corner.

Children will have their own name cards (without pictures) for tracing and copying their name until they are able to write it independently.

Staff will talk about letter formation and use the formation rhymes as each letter is taught in phonics in the Letters and Sounds order.

Children will be taught handwriting in the following developmentally appropriate order - l i t u c o a d g r n m b h k p s e f j y q z v w x

Year 1

In Autumn term all children in Year 1 will practice their handwriting 4 times a week on whiteboards. After reading research by The Beery - Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual Motor Integration we have chosen the following order that the letters will be taught are:

Group 1: l, i, t, u, j, y

Group 2: c, a, d, o, s, g, q, e, f

Group 3: r, b, n, h, m, k, p

Group 4: z, v, w, x

The lowercase letter will be taught on day one and the corresponding capital letter will be taught on day two e.g. Monday - l, Tuesday - L, Wednesday - i, Thursday - I

In Spring term the children will move onto the twinkl sheets that combine the lower case, capital letter and apply it to write short words. These will also be taught in the same groups as Autumn term. The expectation is 2 sessions a week

In Summer term the children who are ready to start to learn to join will be taught how to join vc words (it, in, on, an) and if ready move onto cvc words. The rest of the children will focus on any letters that are still not formed correctly, planning will address children's specific misconceptions.

Year 2

In Autumn term all children in Year 2 will practice their handwriting 4 times a week using the twinkl sheets (one sheet per session). They will be taught in the same group order as the Year 1 handwriting groups. This will enable teachers to quickly identify children who need handwriting intervention sessions and make sure the children are secure in their letter formation for the rest of the year. No children in Year 2 will learn to join the letter r.

The children who are securely greater depth who already have correctly formed print handwriting will move onto learning to join using the joined handwriting scheme. This is the same scheme that Shelton Junior School use which will ensure progression of skills. The greater depth children will

need to be able to join horizontal and vertical joins and so will be taught to join words that contain the oy, oi, or, ow, ou, oa, oo diagraphs.

In Spring term the children who are securely expected and are ready to learn to join will learn to join vc words (in, it, is, on, if, an etc) then cvc words (and, the, but, did, can etc) and if able move onto common words such as that, then, this etc)