

Overview

At St Catherine's we follow the RWI phonics programme. We also use LetterJoin to help us formulate a handwriting style.

Writing skills are built on strong speaking, listening and reading skills. As these skills develop, children move from mark making to forming letters and words.

In the EYFS, early writing knowledge is based within 'Literacy', 'Communication and language' and 'Physical Development' learning areas.

Physical Development



Fisted Grasp:
1-2 years old

- Pencil held in palm. All fingers and thumb used.
- Movement is from the shoulder
- Large scribbles are made on the page.



Digital Pronate Grasp
2-3 years old

- All fingers hold pencil. Wrist is turned down.
- Movement is from the elbow.
- Horizontal, vertical and circular lines are now added.



Four Finger Grasp
3-4 years old

- Pencil held between the end of four fingers and thumb.
- Movement is from the wrist.
- Zigzag/crossed lines and simple shapes can be drawn.



Dynamic Tripod Grasp
6-7 years old

- Pencil stable between index, middle fingers & thumb.
- Movement is from the fingertips.
- This allows for more flexibility and accuracy.

Literacy – Phonics (RWI)

Phonics is a way of learning to read by understanding the sounds that letters make and how they work together to make words. By the end of the EYFS children should be able to form letters accurately and write short sentences that can be read by others. These sentences include a mix of correctly spelt words, phonetically spelt words and red words.

Handwriting

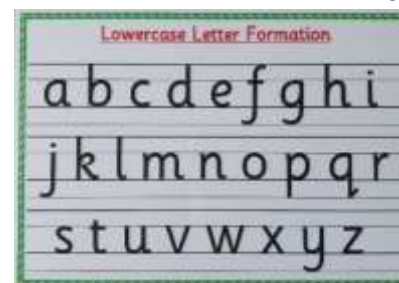
In FS2 we use print as a handwriting style. We use LetterJoin to guide the teaching of handwriting.

Letters are split into 3 groups:

Small letters: a e i o w u n m c v s x z r

Tall letters (ascenders): t d h k l b

Long letters (descenders): q y p f g j



Writing Development

In Foundation children will move through many stages in writing development. Children will be able to:

Draw pictures with increased detail. Label pictures using familiar CVC words (mum, dad, cat, dog). Spell with phonetical accuracy. Write short sentences or cations that can be read by others.



Key Vocabulary

Pencil

Sounds

Letters

Sentences

Vowel

Consonant

Digraph

Blending

Punctuation