St. Sebastian’s R.C. Primary School

Handwriting Policy

**Nursery**

The focus in Nursery will be on fine and gross motor skills. By the end of Nursery the children will have secured the correct pencil tripod grip and apply the correct pressure. This will be developed by the use of playdough, plasticine, clay and other malleable materials. The children will also practise the physical movement of letter formation.

**Reception**

It is the intention that all children will start Reception at the required level from Nursery. Any new starters will be assessed upon entry and interventions put in place to secure the correct pencil grip and pressure. The children will start on purple handwriting books and be taught the correct letter formation from the RWI Phonics Programme with no leads or flicks.

**Year 1**

It is the expectation that when children start Year 1, they will be able to form all single letters correctly, starting and finishing in the correct place. As soon as correct letter formation is secured, the children will be taught the letters with leads and flicks and begin joining. Any special friends taught from the RWI Phonics Programme will be modelled joined together (holding hands). They also need to be joining some letters together to form CVC words.

In the autumn term, the children will continue with joining in the purple handwriting books. In the spring term the children will start red handwriting books, with smaller guided lines.

Any child who is not on track with the above will receive small group intervention to close the gap.

During handwriting lessons, it needs explaining to the children which letters are small, tall and low in preparation for Year 2.

**Year 2**

Children will have daily handwriting focusing on letter joins using the red handwriting books.

**KS2**

In KS2, the children will have daily handwriting practice at the beginning of every English lesson. The focus of handwriting is on letter joins linked to spellings. In Year 3, some pupils may still be focusing on letter joins. Pupils will move to writing with a handwriting pen when they can securely follow the handwriting policy.

Long Ladder Family

Tall letters – l, t,

Small letters – i, u

Long letters – j, y

One-Armed Robot Family

Small letters – m, n, r

Tall letters – b, h, k

Long letters - p

Numbers – 2,3,5

Curly Caterpillar Family

Small letters – c, a, e, o, s

Tall letters – d, f

Long letters – g, f, q

Numbers – 0, 6, 8, 9

Zig-Zag Family

Small letters – v, w, x, z

Numbers – 1,4,7

Small letter joins

aa ac ao as au ae ar am an ai

ca cc co cs cu ce cr cm cn ci

ua uc uo us uu ue ur um un ui

ea ec eo es eu ee er em en ei

ma mc mo ms mu me mr mm mn mi

na nc no ns nu ne nr nm nn ni

ia ic io is iu ie ir im in ii

av aw

iv iw

ev ew

uv uw

cv cw

mv mw

nv nw

Tall letter joins

hb hh hl hk ht

lb lh ll lk lt

kb kh kl kk kt

tb th tl tk tt

db dh dl dk dt

Small letter to tall letter joins

al cl ul el ml nl il

ab cb ub eb mb nb ib

ah ch uh eh mh nh ih

ak ck uk ek mk nk ik

at ct ut et mt nt it

ad cd ud ed mt nt it

Tall letter to small letter joins

la lc lu le lm ln li lr lo

ha hc hu he hm hn hi hr ho

ka kc ku ke km kn ki kr ko

ta tc tu te tm tn ti tr to

da dc du de dm dn di dr do

Horizontal joins to tall letters

oh ob ol ok ot

wh wb wl wk wt

vh vb vl vk vt

Horizontal joins to small letters

oa oo oc ou om on oi ow ov os

Horizontal joins to long letters

og oy oq op oj

Small joins to long letters

ag ay aj ap aq

cg cy cj cp cq

ug uy uj up uq

eg ey ej ep eq

mg my mj mp mq

ng ny nj np nq

ig iy ij ip iq

Small joins to f

af ef cf uf if mf nf

Tall letters to f

lf kf tf hf