



## **Cowley Hill Primary School – Handwriting Policy**

### **Introduction**

As a school we have looked at how we teach handwriting across the school. We have re-written our handwriting policy with a view to improving the presentation and flow of children's handwriting across the school. Teaching joined handwriting when it is linked to phonics and spelling supports the children's learning of spelling patterns and rules. Please see the newly adopted handwriting style on the reverse of this sheet.

### **Handwriting Expectations**

#### **Foundation Stage**

Handwriting is modeled through phonics teaching and shared writing as the children progress through the Foundation Stage. Children are taught to form individual letters correctly. Children do not join letters at this stage. Where necessary, children will be taught to hold the pencil in a comfortable efficient grip. Teachers model the exit flicks of letters in readiness for joined handwriting.

#### **Year 1**

Teachers model entry and exit flicks in readiness for joined handwriting from the beginning of year 1. Where new sounds are introduced in phonics they will be joined as a letter string eg 'ng'. Towards the end of year 1 children will be taught to join handwriting.

#### **Year 2 onwards**

Joined handwriting will be taught from the end of year 1 building on the previous years experience. Children will be expected to be joining most of their work in year 2 and all of their work in year 3.

#### **Handwriting Pens**

As children reach a high standard of handwriting they will be awarded a special handwriting pen which they will use for writing in literacy and across other subjects. To be awarded their pen, children must form letters correctly; with appropriate ascenders, descenders and with a neat flowing style.

#### **Parents**

As ever please support your child whenever they are doing their homework at home. The new handwriting style allows all letters to be joined and therefore will help the children's writing flow more easily – they will be able to write more quickly and neatly. Please encourage your child to follow the expectations of the handwriting policy as outlined above. Remember encourage your child as they should enjoy writing.



**Please Keep for Future Reference**