

PINEWOOD INFANT SCHOOL & FOUNDATION UNIT

POLICY STATEMENT FOR HANDWRITING

January 2017

Introduction

At Pinewood all children are taught letter formation in line with the Ruth Miskin formation rhymes. Cursive handwriting is introduced from Year 1 with the aim of improving handwriting presentation.

Aims

- To provide equal opportunities for all pupils to achieve success in handwriting
- To develop accuracy and fluency
- To encourage children to take pride in their work
- To produce clear, concise legible handwriting in a cursive style
- To join when all letters are correctly formed.

Staff Expectations

All staff will model correct letter formation, sitting letters on the line and showing ascenders and descenders from F1 onwards. Handwriting will happen most days.

Foundation 1

Children will be taught to write letters with the Ruth Miskin rhymes right from the start in F1. Staff will model neat handwriting extensively throughout the day. A variety of materials will be made every day and children will be encouraged to practise through play and more formal activities to develop gross and fine motor skills.

Foundation 2

Children will continue to be taught to write letters with the Ruth Miskin rhymes in F2. Writing will be modelled on the line with clear ascenders and descenders and lines used to write will become narrower as the children become more competent in writing letters and more consistent in their handwriting size. Staff will model extensively throughout the day.

A variety of materials will be made every day and children will be encouraged to practise through play and more formal activities to develop gross and fine motor skills. Handwriting 4 times a day. Handwriting will be taught within and in addition to phonics. Increased focus on the size and shape of letters and holding a pencil correctly.

Year 1/2

Children will be taught a cursive style on entry starting from the line and all staff will use the same language for starting 'Up the hill'. Handwriting will be taught within and in addition to phonics on a daily basis. Thin line white boards will be used.

Children will be taught:

- to write left to right and top and bottom of a page
- to form letters of regular shape and size
- to put regular spaces between letters and words
- how to form lower and upper case letters
- to join when all letters are formed correctly

Left Handed provision

All left handed children are identified and monitored to ensure success. The child sits towards the left of their partner leaving plenty of space for writing on the left side of his/her midline.

Monitoring

The presentation of all work is monitored through work scrutinies and learning walks conducted by the Senior Management Team.

Sophie Florian Jan 2017 **To be reviewed in Spring Term 2017 with Junior School.**