

Handwriting

At Wrington, we aim to develop children's enjoyment of and ability to write for a wide range of purposes. We recognise that clear, legible handwriting allows the content of the work to be appreciated and frees the writer to focus on the task. Good presentation skills also encourage children to take pride in their work and there are links between fluent, joined handwriting and success in spelling.

Our aims are:

- To model good handwriting/ presentation;
- To teach the correct formation/ joins following the Nelson handwriting scheme;
- To teach suitable presentation styles for different tasks;
- To provide for the needs of both left and right handed children.

Teaching and Learning Styles.

At Wrington, we believe that the correct letter formation and joins need to be taught. This begins by linking the letter shapes to sounds with our youngest children and is developed throughout the school to Year 6.

We recognise that our children will develop pencil control skills at different rates and seek to support them at each stage.

Each teacher links the teaching of handwriting to spelling patterns, but standards of handwriting/ presentation are maintained throughout the curriculum.

Whilst presentation and handwriting are important and desirable, work should never be corrected to the extent that children do not want to write.

We recognise that each teacher needs to set the best possible example and take pride in their work to convey the right attitude and standard for our children. Therefore we, as teachers, strive to model Nelson handwriting at all times. Although we use ICT to support our teaching, we recognise the importance of clear, handwritten signs about the school as well.

Resources.

We use the Nelson Handwriting scheme. Each class has the appropriate books and there are photocopiable sheets to support this, but we feel it is more important to promote 'real life' writing than work through text books. Each class also has a set of handwriting/vocabulary extension cards.

School provides handwriting pens which children are 'issued' with as they become ready for this. Sharpened pencils are also encouraged. Children should be encouraged to use pen when



their writing is ready, not at a set age/year group. Pencil/pen toppers and 'gimmicky' pens/pencils are not encouraged as these can affect handwriting.