

Handwriting

**A Parent’s Guide**



This leaflet is to explain why and how we teach handwriting at Huyton with Roby C.E. Primary School. It also includes ideas on ways in which you can help to develop your child’s handwriting.

At Huyton with Roby, our aim is that pupils will be supported to develop a handwriting style which is clear, joined and fluid. Inevitably some will be neater than others, but each child can acquire a consistent and fluent style.

Although there are many opportunities to practice handwriting across the curriculum, we will also provide regular lessons for teaching and revising these skills. The frequency and length of these lessons will vary according to the age and competence of the children.

Formal handwriting skills will be taught regularly and systematically through the use of the PENPALS Handwriting scheme (Cambridge University Press).

Five stages are identified and these form the basic organisation of the scheme:

1. Readiness for writing: gross and fine motor skills leading to letter formation (Foundation)

2. Beginning to join (Lower KS1)

3. Securing joins (Upper KS1/Lower KS2)

4. Practising speed and fluency (Lower KS2)

5. Presentation skills (Upper KS2)

Opportunities for linking handwriting with early phonics and spelling work are fully ex-ploited through the PENPALS scheme.

It is important that children hold their pencil correctly and ensure their posture is cor-rect.



Pencil hold

* Pencil held between finger and thumb
* Middle finger provides extra support



Posture

* Feet flat on the floor
* Head up, not resting on the desk or hand
* Paper at the correct angle
* Spare hand steadies the paper



