

The Priestley Progress Path

Handwriting



Placing learning at the heart of everything we do.

EYFS pupils

will be able to:



EYFS

- *Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly.*
- *Holds pencil between thumb and two fingers, no longer using whole-hand grasp.*
- *Holds pencil near point between first two fingers and thumb and uses it with good control.*
- *Can copy some letters, e.g. letters from their name.*
- *Shows a preference for a dominant hand.*
- *Begins to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines.*
- *Begins to form recognisable letters.*
- *Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.*
- *Begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place.*
- *Begin to form capital letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place.*



Early Learning Goal

Children at the expected level of development will:

- *Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.*
- *Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters.*
- *Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.*



Year One pupils

will be able to:

Year 1 - Pupils' writing during year 1 will generally develop at a slower pace than their reading. This is because they need to encode the sounds they hear in words (spelling skills), develop the physical skill needed for handwriting, and learn how to organise their ideas in writing.

- *Continue to develop the right posture in order to write correctly.*
- *Continue to form lower case letters and capital letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place.*
- *Form lower case letters to the correct size relative to one another.*
- *Understand which letters belong to which handwriting groups e.g.: the letter 'a' belongs to the curly caterpillar group.*
- *Understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' and to practise these.*
- *Understand which letters have an ascender and which letters have a descender.*
- *Make links with spelling and phonics.*
- *Start using horizontal and diagonal strokes to join letters.*
- *Write capital letters of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case.*
- *Use spacing between words that reflect the size of the letters.*
- *Understand the vocabulary related to handwriting e.g.: entry, exit points, horizontal and diagonal strokes, ascenders, descenders, lower case and upper case.*
- *Children to regularly practise their handwriting in a tracked book. All writing books will have the tracked lines.*
- *Form digits 0-9.*



Year Two pupils

will be able to:

Year 2 - In writing, pupils at the beginning of year 2 ... should be able to form individual letters correctly, so establishing good handwriting habits from the beginning.

- *Form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another.*
- *Start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined.*
- *Continue to write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters.*
- *Use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.*
- *Children to continue to regularly practise their handwriting in a tracked book until ready to use a non-tracked book.*
- *Use horizontal and diagonal strokes to join letters and understand which letters are best left un-joined.*
- *Continue to understand which letters have an ascender and which letters have a descender.*
- *Write capital letters of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case.*
- *Use spacing between words that reflect the size of the letters.*
- *Continue to develop the right posture in order to write correctly.*



Year Three pupils

will be able to:

Year 3 - Joined handwriting should be the norm; pupils should be able to use it fast enough to keep pace with what they want to say.

- *Use diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined.*
- *Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch]. Use horizontal and diagonal strokes to join letters and understand which letters are best left un-joined.*
- *Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting.*
- *Lines of writing are spaced sufficiently.*
- *To develop the right posture in order to write correctly.*
- *Children progress to practising their handwriting in a book with lines that are in their writing books.*
- *Children aim to gain a pen licence for correct formation, fluidity and correct joins. (The giving of a pen licence will be at the class teacher's discretion and children will then be able to use these for their handwriting practice).*



Year Four pupils

will be able to:

Year 4 - Joined handwriting should be the norm; pupils should be able to use it fast enough to keep pace with what they want to say.

- *Use diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined.*
- *Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch]. Use horizontal and diagonal strokes to join letters and understand which letters are best left un-joined.*
- *Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting.*
- *Lines of writing are spaced sufficiently.*
- *To develop the right posture in order to write correctly.*
- *Children progress to practising their handwriting in a book with lines that are in their writing books.*
- *Children aim to gain a pen licence for correct formation, fluidity and correct joins. (The giving of a pen licence will be at the class teacher's discretion and children will then be able to use these for their handwriting practice).*

Year Five & Six pupils

will be able to:

- *Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by:*
- *Choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters.*
- *Choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.*