

Scheme of work

Letter-join 	Letter-join
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Intent

- At Dr Walker's Church of England School, we know that handwriting is a core skill. It is a skill which is best taught by demonstration, explanation and practice.
- Handwriting is a skill which, like reading and spelling, affects written communication across the curriculum.
- Children need to practise handwriting movements correctly and often.
- The first handwriting lessons are vital and the most important issue is to ensure that the children we teach learn to form the letters of the alphabet with the correct sequence of strokes from the beginning.
- The correct formation of all letters needs to become quite automatic and requires a lot of practice.
- They need to develop fluent handwriting so that they are able to develop writing at greater speed and so that they are concentrating the content and quality of their writing not how to form and join letters.

Implementation

- Dr Walker's use Letter-join for our handwriting scheme and follow the modules for each Year Group.
- We use letter-join plus font, leading each letter in from the line and ending with a flick.
- This enables a more robust and simplistic method for progression to cursive script.
- Pupils DO NOT move onto cursive script UNTIL they can form letters correctly.
- All staff are trained in its delivery
 - **Reception (Module 1) – Letter formations ONLY (using LW mnemonics) – NO lead in**
 - **Year 1 (Module 2)**
 - **Year 2 (Module 3)**
 - **Year 3 (Module 4)**
 - **Year 4 (Module 5)**
 - **Year 5 (Module 6)**
 - **Year 6 (Module 7)**
- Daily practice enables children to become confident and proficient in letter formation, which subsequently feeds into their writing and the wider curriculum.

Impact

- The National Curriculum specifies that primary school children should work towards mastering handwriting that is **fluent, legible and, eventually, speedy**; through our carefully planned and sequenced lessons, following Letter-join, our aim is for children to be able to write with automaticity, thus enabling them to produce far better compositions,
- This is because when handwriting is automatic, they do not have to devote cognitive attention to it, which allows them to focus on the content of their work.