

Hazelwood Schools



Handwriting

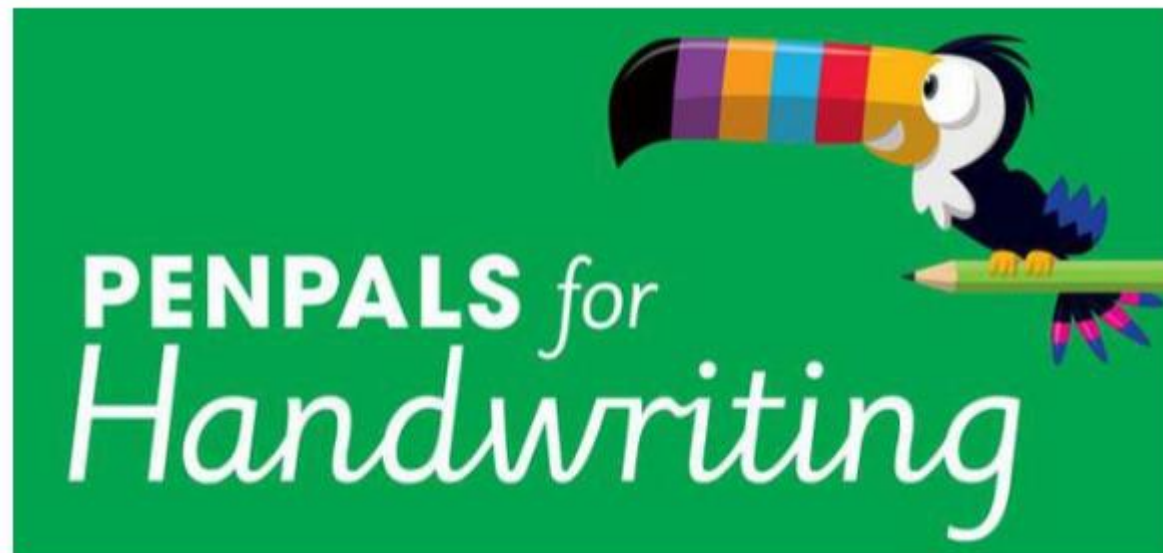
Knowledge and Skills Progression

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

At Hazelwood, we use the Penpals Handwriting Scheme to deliver our handwriting curriculum. Penpals for Handwriting is a complete handwriting scheme for 3-11-year olds, offering clear progression through five developmental stages. It supports and teaches children to develop a fast and fluent handwriting style to help them achieve their potential in writing. The **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)

The scheme offers a clear progression throughout, starting with the development of fine and gross motor skills in Foundation Stage 1 and building up to purposeful writing with style and speed in Year 6.



Nursery – Year 6

Nursery

This year, children will begin to develop both gross and fine motor skills through making patterns.

Developing gross motor skills

- 1 Whole-body responses to the language of movement
- 2 Large movements with equipment
- 3 Large movements with malleable materials
- 4 Body responses to music

Developing fine motor skills

- 5 Hand and finger play
- 6 Making and modelling
- 7 Messy play
- 8 Links to art
- 9 Using one-handed tools and equipment
- 10 Hand responses to music

Developing patterns

- 11 Pattern-making
- 12 Investigating dots
- 13 Investigating straight lines and crosses
- 14 Investigating circles
- 15 Investigating curves, loops and waves
- 16 Investigating joined straight lines and angled patterns
- 17 Investigating eights and spirals

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

Reception

We begin at school with letters being written separately (not joined up yet). When the child's letter formation is accurate, joins are then to be introduced.

Term 1

- 1 Dots
- 2 Straight lines and crosses
- 3 Circles
- 4 Waves
- 5 Loops and bridges
- 6 Joined straight lines
- 7 Angled patterns
- 8 Eights
- 9 Spirals
- 10 Left-to-right orientation
- 11 Mix of patterns
- 12 Review of patterns

Term 2

- 13 Introducing long-legged giraffe letters: **l**
- 14 Practising long-legged giraffe letters: **l, i**
- 15 Practising long-legged giraffe letters: **u, t**
- 16 Practising long-legged giraffe letters: **j, y**
- 17 Practising all the long-legged giraffe letters: **l, i, t, u, j, y**
- 18 Introducing one-armed robot letters: **r**
- 19 Practising one-armed robot letters: **b, n**
- 20 Practising one-armed robot letters: **h, m**
- 21 Practising one-armed robot letters: **k, p**
- 22 Practising all the one-armed robot letters: **r, b, n, h, m, k, p**
- 23 Practising all the long-legged giraffe and one-armed robot letters
- 24 Reviewing all the long-legged giraffe and one-armed robot letters

Term 3

- 25 Introducing curly caterpillar letters: **c**
- 26 Practising curly caterpillar letters: **a, d**
- 27 Practising curly caterpillar letters: **o, s**
- 28 Practising curly caterpillar letters: **g, q**
- 29 Practising curly caterpillar letters: **e, f**
- 30 Practising all the curly caterpillar letters: **c, a, d, o, s, g, q, e, f**
- 31 Practising all the curly caterpillar, long-legged giraffe and one-armed robot letters
- 32 Introducing zig-zag monster letters: **z**
- 33 Practising zig-zag monster letters: **v, w, x**
- 34 Practising all the zig-zag monster letters: **z, v, w, x**
- 35 Practising all the curly caterpillar and zig-zag monster letters
- 36 Reviewing all the curly caterpillar and zig-zag monster letters

Year 1

During this school year children will begin to join some pairs of letters within a word. Units introducing new letters or joins are flagged with coloured dots

Term 1

- 1 Practising long-legged giraffe letters
- 2 Writing words with ll
- 3 Introducing capitals for long-legged giraffe letters
- 4 Practising one-armed robot letters
- 5 Practising long-legged giraffe letters and one-armed robot letters
- 6 Introducing capitals for one-armed robot letters
- 7 Practising curly caterpillar letters
- 8 Writing words with double ff
- 9 Writing words with double ss
- 10 Introducing capitals for curly caterpillar letters

Term 2

- 11 Practising long-legged giraffe letters, one-armed robot letters and curly caterpillar letters
- 12 Practising zig-zag monster letters
- 13 Writing words with double zz
- 14 Mixing all the letter families
- 15 Practising all the capital letters
- 16 Practising all the numbers 0-9
- 17 Writing words with ck and qu
- 18 Practising long vowel phonemes: ai, igh, oo
- 19 Practising vowels with adjacent consonants: ee, oa, oo
- 20 End-of-term check

Term 3

- 21 Numbers 10-20: spacing
- 22 Practising ch unjoined
- 23 Introducing diagonal join to ascender: ch
- 24 Practising ai unjoined
- 25 Introducing diagonal join, no ascender: ai
- 26 Practising wh unjoined
- 27 Introducing horizontal join to ascender: wh
- 28 Practising ow unjoined
- 29 Introducing horizontal join, no ascender: ow
- 30 Assessment

Year 2

The main aim this year is for the children to become fluent and develop an automatic style. Units introducing new letters or joins are flagged with coloured dots

Term 1

- 1 Practising diagonal join to ascender: *th, ch*
- 2 Practising diagonal join, no ascender: *ai, ay*
- 3 Practising diagonal join, no ascender: *ir, er*
- 4 Practising horizontal join to ascender: *wh, oh*
- 5 Practising horizontal join, no ascender: *ow, ou*
- 6 Introducing diagonal join to e: *ie, ue*
- 7 Introducing horizontal join to e: *oe, ve*
- 8 Introducing *ee*
- 9 Practising diagonal join, no ascender: *le*
- 10 Writing numbers 1–100

Term 2

- 11 Introducing diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: *ea*
- 12 Practising diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: *igh*
- 13 Practising diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: *dg, ng*
- 14 Introducing horizontal join to anticlockwise letters: *oo, oa*
- 15 Practising horizontal join to anticlockwise letters: *wa, wo*
- 16 Introducing mixed joins for three letters: *air, ear*
- 17 Practising mixed joins for three letters: *oor, our*
- 18 Practising mixed joins for three letters: *ing*
- 19 Size and spacing
- 20 End-of-term check

Term 3

- 21 Building on diagonal join to ascender: *ck, al, el, at, il, ill*
- 22 Building on diagonal join, no ascender: *ui, ey, aw, ur, an, ip*
- 23 Building on horizontal join to ascender: *ok, ot, ob, ol*
- 24 Building on horizontal join, no ascender: *oi, oy, on, op, ov*
- 25 Building on diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: *ed, cc, eg, ic, ad, ug, dd, ag*
- 26 Building on horizontal join to anticlockwise letters: *oc, og, od, va, vo*
- 27 Introducing joins to s: *as, es, is, os, ws, ns, ds, ls, ts, ks*
- 28 Practising joining *ed* and *ing*
- 29 Assessment
- 30 Capitals

Year 3

Children will refine their handwriting and make sure that the size and proportions of all letters and the spaces between letters and words are consistent. Units introducing new letters or joins are flagged with coloured dots

Term 1

- 1 Practising joining through a word in stages: no ascenders or descenders
- 2 Practising joining through a word in stages: parallel ascenders
- 3 Introducing joining from s to ascender: *sh, sl, st, sk*
- 4 Introducing joining from s, no ascender: *sw, si, se, sm, sn, sp, su*
- 5 Introducing joining from s to an anticlockwise letter: *sa, sc, sd, sg, so, sq*
- 6 Introducing joining from r to an ascender: *rb, rh, rk, rl, rt*
- 7 Introducing joining from r, no ascender: *ri, ru, m, rp*
- 8 Introducing joining from r to an anticlockwise letter: *ra, rd, rg, ro*
- 9 Introducing joining from r to e: *are, ere, ure, ore, ire*
- 10 Introducing break letters: *g, j, y, f, b, p, x, z*

Term 2

- 11 Introducing joining to f: *if, ef, af, of*
- 12 Introducing joining from f to an ascender: *fl, ft*
- 13 Introducing joining from f, no ascender: *fe, fi, fu, fr, fy*
- 14 Introducing joining from f to an anticlockwise letter: *fo, fa*
- 15 Introducing *ff*
- 16 Introducing *rr*
- 17 Introducing *ss*
- 18 Introducing *qu*
- 19 Revising parallel ascenders and descenders
- 20 End-of-term check

Term 3

- 21 Revising joins: letter spacing
- 22 Revising joins: spacing between words
- 23 Revising joins: consistency of size
- 24 Revising joins: fluency
- 25 Revising joins: parallel ascenders
- 26 Revising joins: parallel ascenders and descenders
- 27 Revising horizontal join from r to an anticlockwise letter: *rs*
- 28 Revising break letters
- 29 Assessment
- 30 Revising capital letters

Year 4

In Year 4 children will begin to slope their handwriting and will keep ascenders and descenders parallel. Children will begin to practise writing at increased speed and will be introduced to the print alphabet for captions, headings, labels and posters. Units introducing new letters or joins are flagged with coloured dots

Term 1

- 1 Introducing diagonal join from p and b to ascender: *ph, pl, bl*
- 2 Introducing diagonal join from p and b, no ascender: *bu, bi, be, pu, pi, pe*
- 3 Introducing diagonal join from p and b to an anticlockwise letter: *pa, po, ps, ba, bo, bs*
- 4 Revising parallel ascenders and descenders: *bb, pp*
- 5 Break letters: *x, z*
- 6 Spacing in common exception words
- 7 Consistent size of letters
- 8 Relative size of capitals
- 9 Speed and fluency
- 10 End-of-term check

Term 2

- 11 Revising parallel ascenders
- 12 Revising parallel ascenders and break letters
- 13 Relative sizes of letters
- 14 Proportion of letters
- 15 Spacing between letters
- 16 Spacing between words
- 17 Writing at speed
- 18 Improving fluency
- 19 Speed and fluency
- 20 End-of-term check

Term 3

- 21 Consistency of size
- 22 Proportion
- 23 Spacing between letters and words
- 24 Size, proportion and spacing
- 25 Fluency: writing longer words
- 26 Speed and fluency
- 27 Revising break letters
- 28 Print alphabet: presentation
- 29 Assessment
- 30 Capital letters: presentation

Year 5

By this stage children should be secure at joining and able to use joined up writing for most of their work. Children will be experimenting with slopes and will have a more mature and comfortable style ink. Units introducing new letters or joins are flagged with coloured dots

Term 1

- 1 Introducing sloped writing in letter families
- 2 Practising sloped writing: diagonal join to ascender: *th, sh, nb, nd, ht, st*
- 3 Practising sloped writing: diagonal join, no ascender: *ai, ay, kn, er, ie, en*
- 4 Practising sloped writing: diagonal join to an anticlockwise letter: *ac, sc, bo, da, ea, ho*
- 5 Practising sloped writing: horizontal join to ascender: *wh, wl, oh, ol, of, ob*
- 6 Practising sloped writing: horizontal join, no ascender: *oi, oy, ou, op, ve*
- 7 Practising sloped writing: horizontal join to an anticlockwise letter: *oo, oa, wa, wo, va, vo*
- 8 Practising sloped writing: joining from r: *ra, re, ri, ro, ru*
- 9 Practising sloped writing: joining from s: *sh, su, sc, sl, sw, sp*
- 10 End-of-term check

Term 2

- 11 Practising sloped writing: proportion – joining from f to ascender: *fl, ft*
- 12 Practising sloped writing: size – joining from f, no ascender: *fa, fe, fi, fo, fu*
- 13 Different styles for different purposes: writing a paragraph
- 14 Practising sloped writing: speed: *ff*
- 15 Practising sloped writing: speed and legibility: *rr*
- 16 Practising sloped writing: size, proportion and spacing: *ss*
- 17 Practising sloped writing: building speed: *qu*
- 18 Different styles for different purposes: decorative alphabets
- 19 Different styles for different purposes
- 20 End-of-term check

Term 3

- 21 Sloped writing: proportion, joining p and b to ascenders: *ph, pl, bl*
- 22 Handwriting for different purposes: joining from p and b, no ascender: *bu, bi, pe, pu, pi, pr*
- 23 Practising sloped writing: parallel downstrokes: *pp, bb*
- 24 Practising sloped writing: all double letters
- 25 Practising sloped writing for speed: *tial, cial*
- 26 Practising sloped writing for fluency
- 27 Personal style
- 28 Handwriting for different purposes: print alphabet
- 29 Assessment
- 30 Capitals

Year 6

By this stage children should be secure at joining and able to use joined up writing for most of their work. Children will be experimenting with slopes and will have a more mature and comfortable style ink. Units introducing new letters or joins are flagged with coloured dots

Term 1

- 1 Style for speed: crossbar join from t: *th, ti, tr, ta, tt*
- 2 Style for speed: looping from g: *gl, gi, gr, ga, gg*
- 3 Style for speed: looping from j and y: *je, jo, ye, yr, yo*
- 4 Style for speed: looping from f
- 5 Style for speed: different joins to s
- 6 Style for speed: looping from b
- 7 Style for speed: joining from v, w, x and z
- 8 Handwriting for different purposes: abbreviations
- 9 Spacing between words
- 10 End-of-term check

Term 2

- 11 Improving handwriting: the importance of consistent sizing
- 12 Improving handwriting: the importance of proportion
- 13 Improving handwriting: the importance of spacing
- 14 Improving handwriting: the importance of consistent sizing of parallel ascenders and descenders
- 15 Improving handwriting: the importance of closed and open letters
- 16 Improving handwriting: pen breaks in longer words
- 17 Handwriting for different purposes: annotations
- 18 Handwriting for different purposes
- 19 Choice of handwriting tools
- 20 End-of-term check

Term 3

- 21 Handwriting for different purposes: fast-joined and print letters
- 22 Handwriting for different purposes: note making
- 23 Handwriting for different purposes: neat writing
- 24 Handwriting for different purposes: print letters for personal details
- 25 Different styles of writing
- 26 Handwriting for different purposes: presentation
- 27 Handwriting for different purposes: decorated capitals
- 28 Handwriting for different purposes: layout
- 29 Assessment
- 30 Handwriting for different purposes: handwriting patterns