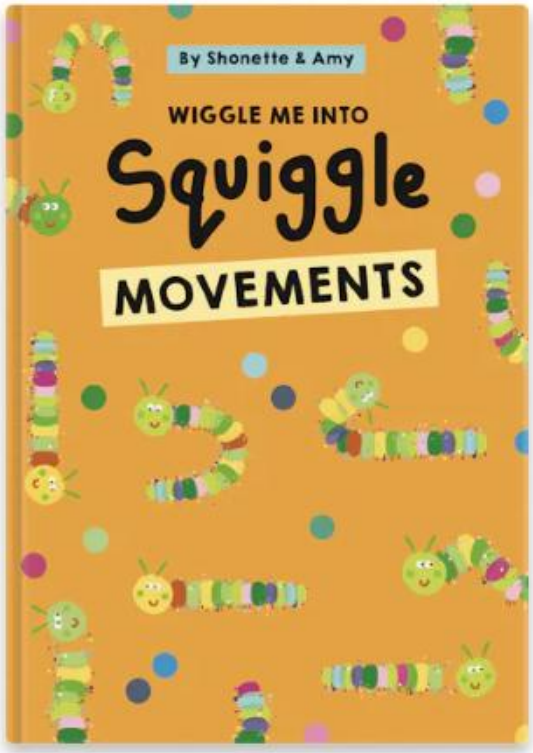
Hazelwood Schools

Handwriting

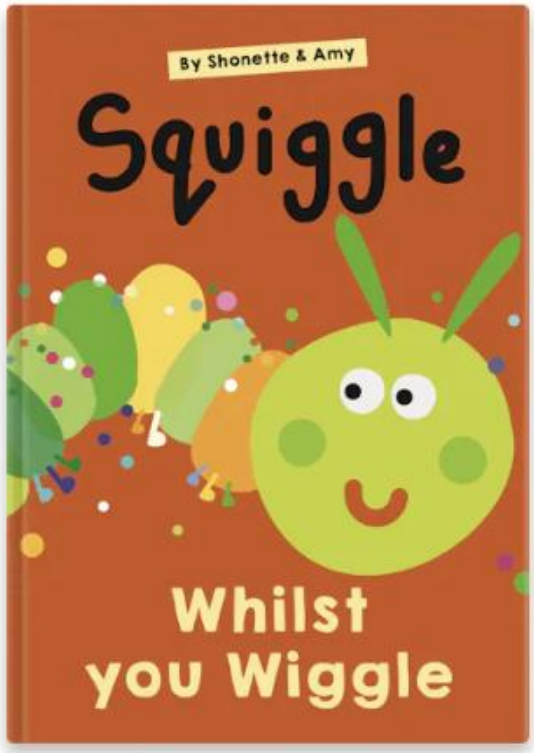
Knowledge and Skills Progression

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

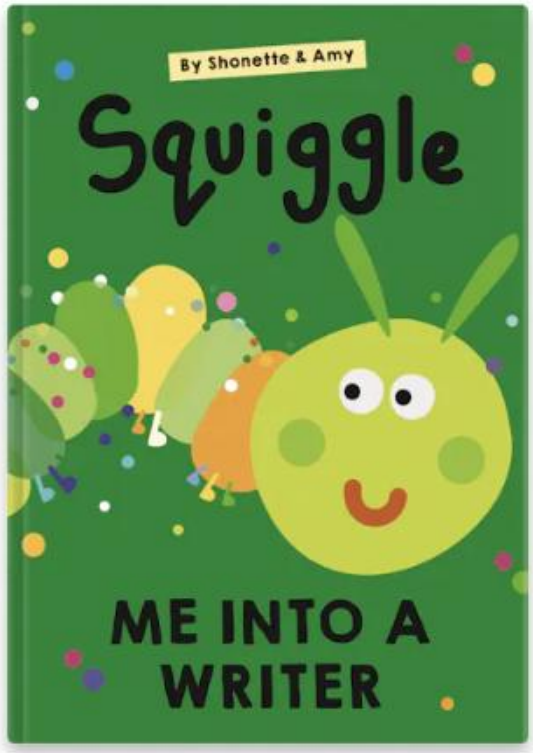
At Hazelwood, we value the importance of securing a firm foundation for Handwriting skills in the Early Years. We focus on developing gross and fine motor skills in order to fully prepare our children with the core strengh, co-ordiation and control they need when writing. We use the **Squiggle Early Learning programme,** a developmental approach to early writing that uses neurological and physiological movements to create marks. There are 3 stages:



Wiggle Me into Squiggle



Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle



Squiggle Me into a Writer

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

Nursery

Wiggle me into a Squiggler is designed for the early stages of mark making and physical development used in writing. This year, children will begin to develop both gross and fine motor skills through making patterns.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Wiggle me into a Squiggle • **Move 1 Up** • **Move 2 Down** • **Move 3 Circles**	**Wiggle me into a Squiggle** • **Move 3 Circles** • **Move 4 Wiggle** • **Move 5 Shake**	**Wiggle me into a Squiggle** • **Move 5 Shake** • **Move 6 Hop** • **Move 7 Jump**	**Wiggle me into a Squiggle** • **Move 7 Jump** • **Move 8 Turning Turtle**	**Wiggle me into a Squiggle** • **Move 9 Turning Turtle** • **Move 10 Crawling** **Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle** • **Dance 1: up, down, side to side, cross over**

Reception

Reception - Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle and Squiggle me into a Writer move on to more advanced mark making and letter formation. In Reception, children learn letter formation through the use of Little Wandle Letter formation rhymes. These are introduced to the children as they learn each grapheme. In Reception children learn to write letters separately (not joined up yet). When the child's letter formation is accurate, joins are then to be introduced in Year 1.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle • **Dance 1: up, down, side to side, cross over** • **Dance 2: the wiggle** • **Dance 3: the circle** • **Dance 4: the hump** ***Start learning Little Wandle Rhymes in phonics***	**Squiggle Whilst You Wiggle** • **Dance 5: the hook** • **Dance 6: the spiral** • **Dance 7: the wave** • **Dance 8: the letter s** • **Dance 9: the straight line**	**Squiggle Me into a Writer** **Dances: m, a, s, d, t, i**	**Squiggle Me into a Writer** **Dances: n, p, g, c/o, k, b,**	**Squiggle Me into a Writer** **Dances: f, e, l, h, r/j, v/w/z/x**	**Squiggle Me into a Writer** **Dances: y, q/u, sh, ch, th,**

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

Nursery

In Nursery, children are explicitly taught and regularly assessed in a progressive sequence of pre-writing patterns. These develop fine motor control, hand–eye coordination, spatial awareness, pencil control and fluency. Children progress from simple directional movements to more complex patterns, building the foundations for accurate and confident letter formation in Reception.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Basic Directional *Movement* ***Vertical, Horizontal, Circle*** Develops control of straight and circular movements, including directionality.		**Combining Movements** ***Cross, C shape, Wavy*** Begins to combine movements, change direction and develop greater pencil control.	**Developing Rhythm & Fluency** ***Up curves, Down curves, Spiral*** Develops smooth, continuous movements, rhythm and increasing fluency.	**Corners & Changes of *Direction*** ***Square, Turret, Diagonal ↘, Diagonal ↗*** Develops precision, angular movements and controlled changes of direction.	**Precision & Combining Movements** **Diagonal Cross, Triangle, Consolidation** *Combines previously taught movements with increasing accuracy, control and independence.*

Little Wandle Handwriting Progression – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

The Little Wandle handwriting progression supports children in developing the fine motor skills, letter formation and handwriting fluency needed to become confident, independent writers. Handwriting is taught systematically, building on prior learning and following the progression of phonics teaching. Children develop correct letter formation, starting points and direction, alongside consistent letter sizing, spacing and pencil control. As children progress through Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, they move from forming individual letters accurately to developing a fluent, legible handwriting style, including joining letters when appropriate. Regular practice, modelling and opportunities to apply handwriting skills across the curriculum help children develop accuracy, confidence and increasing independence.

Reception

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Unit 1: Practising patterns ***Unit 2: Curly letter family***	***Unit 3: Long letter family*** ***Unit 4: Bouncy letter family*** ***Unit 5: Zig-zag letter family***	***Unit 6: Capital letters***	***Unit 6: Capital letters***	***Unit 7: Digraphs and trigraphs***	***Unit 7: Digraphs and trigraphs***

Year 1

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Unit 1: Lower-case letters	***Unit 2: Applying capital letters***	***Unit 3: Forming digits***	***Unit 5: Useful words Focus words:***	***Unit 6: Words with Phase 5 GPCs Writing words with the GPCs:***	***Unit 7: Days of the week***

Year 2

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Unit 1: Diagonal joins from the baseline to short letter	***Unit 2: Diagonal joins from the baseline to tall letters***	***Unit 3: Diagonal joins from the baseline to curly letters*** ***Unit 4: Horizontal joins from the mid-line to short letters***	***Unit 5: Horizontal joins from the mid-line to tall letters*** ***Unit 6: Horizontal joins from the mid-line to curly letters***	***Unit 7: Punctuation*** ***Unit 8: Days of the week*** ***Unit 9: Months of the year***	***Unit 10: Word families***

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

At Hazelwood we use **Penpals Handwriting Scheme** to deliver our handwriting curriculum from Year 3 to 6. Penpals for Handwriting is a complete handwriting scheme, offering clear progression through different developmental stages. It supports and teaches children to develop a fast and fluent handwriting style to help them achieve their potential in writing. The **stages** are identified and these form the basic organisation of the scheme:

The scheme offers a clear progression throughout:

- Practising speed and fluency (Lower KS2)
- Presentation skills (Upper KS2)



Year 3

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Units 1 – 7 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, rn, rp	**Units 8 - 12** 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 11. Introducing joining to f: if, ef, af, of 12. Introducing joining from f to an ascender: fl, ft	**Units 13 - 17** 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	**Units 18 - 21** 18. Introducing qu 19. Revising parallel ascenders and descenders 20. End-of-term check 21. Revising joins: letter spacing	**Units 22 – 24** 22. Revising joins: spacing between words 23. Revising joins: consistency of size 24. Revising joins: fluency	**Units 25 – 30** 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

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

Year 4

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
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	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	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

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
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, dd, 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, ou, 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	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	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

Hazelwood Handwriting Progression

Year 6

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Units 1 – 6	**Units 7-12**	**Units 13 – 17**	**Units 18 – 22**	**Units 23-27**	**Units 28-30**
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 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 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