



Changes to Handwriting

7 October 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers

This academic year, we have adopted a change in the teaching of handwriting at Larchwood. In previous years, we have used lead-in entry lines; this is the line that occurs at that beginning of a letter, for example, a c i h. However, from this academic year, we are now teaching letters without this lead-in line for example, a c i h.

Larchwood Primary School

Handwriting with lead-in lines
(previously taught)

Larchwood Primary School

Handwriting without lead-in lines
(currently taught)

We are making this change as research shows that omitting this lead-in line can help children develop clearer, more consistent letter formation and improve overall handwriting fluency. This shift aligns with current best practice in Reception, where children are taught to write using print (no lead-in). Children in Year 1 will continue learning print, with the focus on letter sizing and correct formation. From Year 2, children will begin being taught to join their letters; this will continue in KS2.

As a school, we have a big focus on handwriting, and children will be partaking in a daily handwriting lesson from Summer term Year 2 until Year 6. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (Autumn and Spring) will still have a discreet handwriting lessons.

You can support your child by encouraging them to practise their handwriting using the new method and reinforcing correct letter sizing and formation. We will be sending out information on how to use Letter-join to support your child(ren) learning at home.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Miss Ingram

Handwriting Lead

