

Appendix 2

Handwriting

At Purston Infant School we have decided that children in EYFS and Year 1 will learn **pre-cursive** handwriting. In Year 2, children will begin to learn **cursive** handwriting. This decision was taken on the advice of a writing specialist providing training for the school. Currently we are using the Sheffield Scheme, but at the moment this is under review.

It is important that children adopt a correct sitting position- ensuring that the table and chair are the correct height to allow good posture, with feet on the floor. It is vital that the child has an appropriate pencil and correct grip with the paper placed at the 'writing hand' side and slightly tilted. Left handed children are best positioned at the corner of the table nearest their left hand, to avoid impeding or being impeded by their neighbour. When preparing to do handwriting practice, it is a good idea to do warming up activities with the fingers, and ensure that the child is holding the pencil correctly in a tripod grip.

Handwriting has to be modelled, therefore it is vital that all practitioners are familiar with the correct formation and style.

In the early stages it is a good idea to make repetitive patterns to increase control and help the writing to flow naturally.