



How can I help with handwriting?

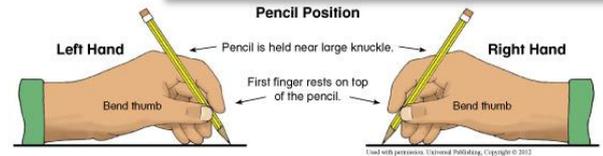


Make it fun!

Importantly, any extra handwriting work that you complete with your child needs to be fun. If it isn't, handwriting neatly can turn into an unpleasant chore! Presenting work neatly for a purpose, such as a thank you letter or party invitation, is also really important. Here at St Barnabas we love children to take pride in their work!

What if my child is left-handed?

It is often helpful to find an adult who is left-handed to assist if your child has problems with a pencil hold or the position of the paper.



How should my child sit?

The child's chair and table should be at a comfortable height. Children should be encouraged to sit up straight and not to slouch. Thighs should be horizontal and feet flat on the floor. There should be plenty of light.

Link to spellings

Research has confirmed the natural link between spelling and handwriting. Handwriting can be used to help your child with their mastery of common spelling rules and develop both a visual and a motor memory of spelling patterns.

Infants and KS1

Via fun activities, we aim to build control skills in younger children.

Bead threading, colouring, tracing, dot to do and patterns copying are encouraged. Using a pencil to form recognisable letters with a comfortable and efficient pencil grip is important. Children are then encouraged to form words, with fingers spaces in-between! When children are ready, they are taught to join their handwriting using the 'Nelson' style.

KS2 (possibly KS1)

Children go on to work on sizing their letters consistently and joining their handwriting neatly. Many children seem keen to print their handwriting later on in KS2 but we are very keen that children maintain the good work they have begun with joining, developing a neat and efficient style.

