

Kinetic Letters

Great Doddington Primary School is following the Kinetic Letter Scheme.

Making handwriting automatic

... so all the attention of the brain can be on the content.

How does Kinetic Letters help learning?

- **Automaticity** – Formation, orientation and placement of letters becomes automatic which frees up space in the working memory.
- **Achievement** – Fast, legible and fluent handwriting underpins success in every curriculum area.
- **Confidence** – Good handwriting creates a positive initial judgement.
- **Creativity** – When handwriting is automatic, the brain can concentrate on content.
- **Reading** – Writing and reading are reciprocal skills, so improvement in one, helps the other.
- **Phonics and Spelling** – legible handwriting means children can read and correct spelling.

There are four main strands of the programme .

Making bodies stronger

Building physical strength to help concentration and the ability to hold and manoeuvre the writing tool for extended periods of time without tiring. This is achieved through a series of exercises within writing and PE lessons. The exercises focus on strengthening 4 areas. These are the forearm and wrist, hand and finger, pelvic girdle and shoulder.

Holding the pencil

Strategies for learning, self-correcting and maintaining an optimal pencil hold for comfortable, fluent and legible writing. There is a specific method taught to “pinch, flick, pillow and strength” in order to correctly hold the pencil/pen.

Learning the letters

Teaching children to write letters with automaticity and combine letters into words for writing, using developmentally appropriate strategies and resources. The letters are sorted into letter families that are formed the same way. The letters are taught in a specific order to help the children remember how to form each letter.

Flow and Fluency

Enabling flow in writing from the start. The letter families are practiced on whiteboards and then on different size guide lines.

Joining Programme

The children are taught to use rhythm and flow in order to write at speed for extended periods of time. This is achieved through sets of charts joining letters from the different families together. These joins are practiced and then used in all writing that the child produces. This enables the child to produce consistent, fluent and joined handwriting.