



Working together - Learning forever

3rd March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write to you to explain about our new handwriting policy at Willaston and why we have decided to start teaching cursive handwriting. Due to there now being a greater emphasis on presentation, the formation of letters and joined handwriting within the curriculum, we have started to work on cursive handwriting in school. The expectation is that children in KS1 need joined up writing to be 'above expected level' and children in KS2 need joined handwriting to get 'expected level'. Therefore this year we have purchased a new handwriting scheme that we have been using in lessons to help the children join their letters and neaten their presentation. This programme is also available to access at home on computers and tablets. This is a great resource for the children to use to allow them to practise their handwriting skills. Not only can they practise on tablets, but there is also the option to print out extra resources so they can work on paper.

One of the biggest changes within our handwriting policy is the fact that the children are now expected to join their descending letters and to use lead-in lines. An example can be found to the right:



As you can see from the example, we no longer have break letters when using lowercase. As before, the children do not join capital letters. Attached to this letter there is the Willaston Primary Academy cursive alphabet to help you see how each letter is formed.

The Letter-join Home Edition allows pupils and parents to log in to Letterjoin at home on PCs and tablets. It includes all of Letter-join's animations and practice worksheets to support you at home and it can be particularly beneficial to new joiners and can help parents who may be unfamiliar with cursive handwriting. We shall also have some sheets available in the reception area of school for you to use at home.

How to log in to Letter-join

DESKTOP AND LAPTOP LOG-IN

Simply go to www.letterjoin.co.uk and log in, using the Desktop log-in boxes, with these details:

User name: lj4671

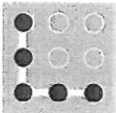
Password: home

Letter-join will work on the following browsers on PCs:

- Google Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari
- Opera

We cannot recommend using Internet Explorer for Letter-join.

IPAD AND TABLET LOG-IN



Go to www.letter-join.co.uk, select the Tablet Login button and log in using these details:

User name: lj4671

Swipe code (starting at top left):

Letter-join will run on the following tablets:

- iPads running at least iOS7 through the Safari browser.
- Windows 8 tablets (8 inch and bigger) using the built-in browser.
- Android tablets (8 inch and bigger) using Google Chrome, Firefox or Opera.

Please contact myself or the school office if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Morrison

Acting Deputy Head/ English subject leader

Headteacher: **Clare Grehan**

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Cursive Lower Case Letters

a b c d e

f g h i j k

l m n o p

q r s t u

v w x y z