

## St. Malachy's BNS Continuous Cursive Handwriting Policy



Aim: To enable children to write fluently, comfortably, quickly and legibly in a Continuous Cursive looped style.

- > Handwriting Workbooks from the Twinkl Continuous Cursive Series have been adopted for use in all classes throughout the school.
- > Special handwriting "Learn to Write" B2 and B4 copies may also be used for practice.
- > A Continuous Cursive Handwriting Font is to be used throughout the school by teachers when delivering content to pupils.

|   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class   | 4 <sup>th</sup> Class  | 5 <sup>th</sup> Class  | 6 <sup>th</sup> Class   |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| Writing Medium & Presentation               | <ul> <li>Pencil for all writing activities</li> <li>Progress to pen for underlining, presentation and correcting</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Pencil for all writing activities</li> <li>Pen for underlining, presentation and correcting</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Term 1: Pencil for all writing activities</li> <li>Term 2/3: Progress to Blue Pen (Maths = Pencil)</li> <li>Red Pen for underlining, presentation and correcting</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Blue Pen for writing activity</li> <li>Pencil for Maths</li> <li>Red Pen for underlining,</li> <li>presentation and correcting</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Blue Pen for writing activity</li> <li>Pencil for Maths</li> <li>Red Pen for underlining, presentation and correcting</li> </ul>   |
| Letter Formation, Placement and Positioning | <ul> <li>To write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters.</li> <li>To form lower case letters of the correct size, relative to one another.</li> <li>To use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.</li> </ul> | To use a neat, joined handwriting style with increasing accuracy and speed.   | • To increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting by ensuring that the down strokes of letters are parallel and equidistant and by ensuring that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch. | <ul> <li>To increase the speed of their handwriting so that problems with forming letters do not get in the way of writing down what they want to say.</li> <li>To be clear about what standard of handwriting is appropriate for a particular task, e.g. quick notes or a final handwritten version.</li> </ul> | To write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters and by choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task. |
| Joining Letters                             | To begin to use the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters.  | <ul> <li>To continue to use the<br/>diagonal and horizontal<br/>strokes that are needed to<br/>join letters and to<br/>understand which letters,<br/>when adjacent to one<br/>another, are best left<br/>unjoined.</li> </ul> | To confidently use diagonal and horizontal joining strokes throughout their independent writing to increase fluency.   | To confidently use diagonal and horizontal joining strokes throughout their independent writing in a legible, fluent and speedy way.   | To recognise when to use an unjoined style (e.g. for labelling a diagram, for writing an email address or for algebra) and capital letters (e.g. for filling in a form).  |



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| Activity<br>Pack/Workbook | <ul> <li>KS 1 CC Letter Formation</li> <li>KS1 CCLetter Formation         <ul> <li>Extra Practice (extension)</li> </ul> </li> <li>CAPITALS KS 1</li> </ul>                                  | <ul> <li>KS 2 CC Letter Formation</li> <li>CAPITALS KS 1</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>KS2 CC Letter Formation Extra<br/>Practice</li> <li>CAPITALS KS 2</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>KS2 CC More Joining Practice</li> <li>CAPITALS KS 2</li> </ul> | KS2 CC Fluency Style &     Speed Practice |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| -                         | The 6 weeks Flying High Intervention Programme will be used to support any children with specific learning needs or those experiencing difficulties on the journey to continuous to cursive. |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |

- · A copy of this policy will be made available to all newly appointed teachers to our school. It will also be available to all staff through the NAS/Teams server and to parents via our school website. (<a href="www.stmalachysbns.ie">www.stmalachysbns.ie</a>)
- · The policy will be reviewed in June 2021 and every 3 years thereafter.