

## **Questions and Answers from Parent Session 14.9.21**

### **Q: Are there any videos to see how the letters are formed?**

We have uploaded a powerpoint on the school website which shows how each letter is formed.

### **Q: Should they be writing every day at home?**

Each child develops differently. It is important to allow a child to experiment and write freely for fun, without an adult correcting every fault! We ask you to support your child to learn their spellings each week and practice these using cursive writing.

### **Q: Are there any drastic differences to how it was taught when I went to school? We don't want to develop bad habits!**

Please see our specific font which we have chosen to teach at St Stephen's. It is likely to be more simple than you might have been taught at school. For example, our font has closed bs and ds.

### **Q: How can I encourage my child to handwrite?**

At the very least, encourage them to practice their weekly spellings in cursive writing. If they are older, you can explain the reasons why this can help them learn - often it helps a child to understand why we are doing something. Other than that, writing for a purpose often helps - shopping lists, postcards to family, diary or drawing comics can be a way to encourage handwriting and developing stamina.

### **Q: When I went to school, I remember being told that certain letters did not need joining, is this a new system or a different version?**

We have chosen a script in which all lower case letters join and all capital letters do not.

### **Q: Will you be asking children to practice this at home?**

Yes - but only as part of spelling homework.

### **Q: Is the school providing writing books with specific lines for cursive handwriting?**

If you would like one at home, please ask your class teacher. They all have one for practice at school.

### **Q: Are there any specific pens or pencils that the children need to use?**

In most cases, a standard pencil will be fine. If your child has difficulty with their pencil grip, we will try different tools to support at school, until we find the one which works best.

If you have any further questions, please contact Jess Morrison, Deputy Headteacher [info@st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-stephens.richmond.sch.uk)