



St Edmund's and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools

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*"We learn together in God's love by
encouraging and supporting one another."*

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Dear Parents & Guardians,

The Federation of St Edmund's and St Joseph's use Kinetic Letters® as our handwriting programme. This programme has four main threads: Making bodies stronger, Holding the pencil, Learning the letters, and Flow and fluency. Kinetic Letters® supports children to develop legible handwriting, that is produced quickly and automatically. With the development of automaticity, handwriting becomes a valuable tool and not a hindrance to learning.

Kinetic Letters® covers all the letters in the alphabet and is based on a set of rules that have been made as simple as possible to enable fast learning. The order in which letters are taught recognises the cognitive and physical development of children: Strength: Writing is a fine finger operation; children must have core body and arm strength to be able to control their fingers precisely. Pencil hold: The pencil/pen grip must be comfortable to allow writing for long periods. Pens and pencils with a triangular cross-section assist in developing the correct hold. Letter formation: The movements to form the letters begin with whole body movements and progress through writing in sand trays to writing on whiteboards and finally writing on paper.

In Kinetic Letters®, all the letters and numbers are formed by one of two monkeys, a brave one (Bounce), who goes to the top branch of the tree, and a scared one (Skip), who goes to the lower branch. Flow and fluency: Letter movements are minimized to help a fast writing style to develop. There are no lead-in strokes.

There are resources available for you to purchase from Kinetic Letters®. Should you wish, please contact sales@kineticletters.com. These include: whiteboards with the Kinetic Letters® tree logo and lines, pencils and whiteboard pens with a triangular cross-section, playing cards with all the letters and their method of formation, pupil books with exercises,



story books explaining how each of the letter groups is formed. The pack below will provide support for you to be able to practise Kinetic Letters at home. Contents: strength exercises and pen/pencil hold, letter families & how to form them, how to use the home pack sheets, letter poster (a – z), lined paper (different line spacing for different year groups), home pack sheets - lowercase letters, capital letters and numbers sheets are attached to the email. The letters/numbers are arranged in the order that they are taught.

Kind regards

Alistair Leighton-Scott
Federation English Lead