

# OVERVIEW

## Kingston Cursive Handwriting

by Paula Morse

A set of three books presenting a complete cursive handwriting scheme for mainstream use but with particular benefits for pupils with reading and spelling difficulties. Evolved over a period of ten years at the Kingston Reading Centre and easily adaptable to styles already in use.

### Book 1: Foundations of the Programme

This book serves as a teacher's guide for using the handwriting scheme as well as outlining the teaching strategies and resources of the Kingston "Teaching Reading Through Spelling" Programme for specific learning difficulties.

The advantages to pupil and teacher of this specific form of handwriting are explained and specific instructions for teaching are given. Suggestions for grip are illustrated and the formation of each lower case letter is detailed with examples. The basic groups of letter shapes are shown and the sequence in which letters are to be introduced is made clear. There is advice to deal with the shape and formation of each letter and with some of the difficulties which may become evident during teaching. The book makes reference to directionality and to the importance of the multisensory approach. There are some suggested pre-writing activities and methods of teaching for use with children with gross motor control problems.

*The book is wire-bound to be used as a teacher's manual. A4. Wire bound. 102 pages.*

### Book 2: Handwriting for Beginners

This book contains copy pages which start with movement patterns and progress to specific letters in the Kingston Cursive style. The letter style and the sequence of learning is carefully structured and at an early stage, sound-symbol relationships can be established as an aid to both spelling and reading.

**Letter Groups:** Letters which share similar handwriting patterns are grouped together and a set of approximately 11 photocopiable work sheets is provided for each group.

**Work Sheets:** Work sheets for each group begins with practice of the relevant handwriting pattern in a large size, first written between double lines and then over a dotted line. The letters in the group are then introduced (at least one page for each letter) and illustrated with a drawing. The letters are first practiced alone and then joined to one or two letters. The letters are practiced in a variety of ways: writing over dotted lines or with the help of a starting point and sometimes with a base line. The following sample pages show the 12 work sheets for the letters in group A.

Similar sets of work sheets are supplied for each group of letters.

*The book is wire-bound and can be used for as a teacher's manual or photocopied. A4. Wire bound. 85 pages.*

### Book 3: Handwriting Copybook

This Handwriting Copybook starts with a short resume of the programme's approach to handwriting. The first set of 28 copy sheets are A5 sheets printed two to a page, each providing 5 lines of practice for each individual letter. A diagram indicates the direction of movement and the pupil is invited to practice the letter shapes, at first with the help of dotted lines to follow. Three horizontal lines define the height of the letters and each page is illustrated with a small relevant drawing used to establish a sound-symbol relationships.

These are followed by 40 carefully ordered work sheets to give practice in building up joins and writing words. The first joins are *i t p* and the other lower case letters are added progressively. The letters already learned are listed at the top of each sheet. These always determine the practice letter combination. There are approximately 10 words to be practiced on each page, sometimes with additional sentences. As the practice progresses, the words are written on a base line and the size is judged by the pupil.

Seven pages provide practice in using capitals, first writing the letter with the help of dotted lines and then writing a sentence using the relevant capital as well as lower case letters. The sentences are written on lines 10mm apart.

*The book is wire-bound and can be used for as a teacher's manual or photocopied. A4. Wire bound. 70 pages.*