

Is handwriting on its way out?

✘ I have always thought I was quite a nice person but I have just discovered I'm reliable, supportive and cynical. This news was brought to me courtesy of a press release from STABILO and discovered a little about the dark art of graphology.

The company surveyed 2000 UK adults to celebrate National Stationery Week back in April. The findings show:

- Almost a quarter have a small-sized writing style – 7mm or less – which can suggest someone is conscientious.
- Just three per cent have large handwriting – 13mm in height or more – and this is typically the sign of someone who is generous and lacking inhibition.
- Handwriting which leans to the right can suggest someone is friendly and this represents 30 per cent of Brits.
- While left-leaning writing, which is used by around one in 10 people, can suggest a cynical nature

Apparently the colour ink you choose is also revealing:

- Two thirds of respondents use black ink when writing which sometimes shows someone wants to be clearly understood.
- Blue ink is often an indicator of friendliness and this is colour of ink is used by 30 per cent of people

I suspect most people choose whatever pen comes first to hand but I did once have a boyfriend who wrote in green felt tip on pink paper. The relationship was doomed after just one note.

Handwriting still has its place according to the survey: for writing shopping lists, to-do lists and filling in forms. Nearly 50% of those surveyed admit they judge people on their handwriting – and six in 10 said their individual handwriting style is important to them.