



Progression in Handwriting

Our Handwriting Progression is in line with National Curriculum recommendations.

EYFS	<p>In order that children eventually acquire a legible, fluent and fast handwriting style, they need to develop skills including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• good gross and fine motor control• a recognition of pattern• a language to talk about shapes and movements• the main handwriting movements involved in the three basic letter shapes as exemplified by: l, c, r.
Year 1	<p>Pupils should be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly• begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place• form capital letters• form digits 0-9• understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (ie letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these
Year 2	<p>Pupils should be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another• start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined• write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower-case letters• use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters
Years 3 and 4	<p>Pupils should be taught to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined• increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting, [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant, and that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch]
Years 5 and 6	<p>Pupils should be taught to write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters• choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task

<https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/Gateway-to-Writing-Developing-handwriting.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study>