

Handwriting Progression Document 2023-24



Year 3 - 6

Teaching
Sequence in
Handwriting

This is the sequence that is followed:

- Hand and finger strength
- Seating position
- Pencil grip
- Tracing
- Patterns
- Over teacher's writing (highlighter)
- Under teacher's writing (directly under words – write in large letters, leave large spaces between words)
- Independence

Coverage of letters and joins:

Approx. 28 letters/joins per term. Approx. 3 letters/joins per week.

These are the four letter families and order that they are taught:

Printed then revised in pre-cursive script:

Curly Caterpillar Letters: c, a, o, d, g, q, e, s

Ladder Letters: I, i, t, u

One-Armed Robot Letters: r, b, n, h, m, k, p

Zigzag Monster Letters: v, w, x, z

More complex letters from the four families: f, j, y

Digits 0-9

Capital letters A-Z - Capital letters do not join to lower case letters.

Following the teaching of the four letter families, pupils will move onto learning letter joins.

Following the teaching of all letter joins, pupils will work on developing their personal handwriting style.

These are the four main joins and order that are taught and examples of the joins:

• First join: Diagonal join.

- Diagonal join from and to letters without ascenders or descenders.
- Diagonal join *to* letters with ascenders and descenders.
- Diagonal join *from* letters with ascenders.
- Diagonal join *from* letters with descenders.

(e.g. ai, it, le, qu)

• Second join: Horizontal join. (e.g. oo, ra, vi, wn)

• Third join: Ascenders/descenders to ascenders/descenders.

- Diagonal join from letters with ascenders/descenders to letters with ascenders/descenders.
- Horizontal join from letters with ascenders/descenders to letters with ascenders/descenders.

(e.g. lb, pl, ob, rt)

• Fourth join: Join to letters with hooks, lines and loops.
(e.g. ju, fa, ge, wh, yo)



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Year	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year 1			Joins already covered in Y1:
			ai, am, an, ao, ar, au, ca, ci, co, cu, ia, im, in, io, ir, iu, ma, mi, mm, mo, mu na, nc, nd, ne, ni, nn, no, np, nu, ua, ui, um, un, uo, ag, aj,
Voor 2	Country Count	Country South	dy, ig, ip, lp, mp, ug, up
Year 2	Cursive Script First join – diagonal join to letters without ascenders or descenders: sa, se, si, sm, sn, so, ss, st, su, sw First join – diagonal join to letters with ascenders and descenders: ab, ah, ak, al, at, ch, ck, cl, ct, sb, sh, sk, sl, st, sp	Cursive Script First join – diagonal join to letters with ascenders and descenders: el, eb, eh, ek, el, et, ih, ik, ill, it, ig, ip, mp, nd, ub, uh, uk, ul, ut First join – diagonal join from letters with ascenders: da, di, do, du, dy	Cursive Script First join – diagonal join from letters with ascenders: ha, he, hi, ho, hu, ka, ke, ki, ko, ku First join – diagonal join from letters with ascenders: la, le, li, lm, lo, lp, lu, bu, ba, be, bi, bo, br, bs
			Remaining 4 weeks – Spend time consolidating diagonal joins with and without ascenders/descenders.
Year 3	Cursive Script	Cursive Script	Cursive Script
	First join – diagonal join to the letter 'c':	First join – diagonal join from letters with	Second join – horizontal join:
	ac, ec, ic, lc, uc	descenders:	ra, rg, ri, rm, rn, ro, rp, rr, rs, ru, va, vi, vo,
	First join – diagonal join to the letter 's':	qu, pu, pa, pe, pi, pl, po, pr, ps	vs, vu, wa, wi, wn, wo, ws, wu, wy
	as, cs, ds, es, hs, is, ks, ls, ms, ns, ts, us	Second join – horizontal join:	Second join – horizontal join to the letter 'e':
		oa, oc, od, oe, og, oi, oj, om, on, oo, or, os,	oe, re, ve, we
	First join – diagonal join to the letter 'e':	ou, ov, ow, ox, oy, oz	
	ae, ce, de, ee, he, ie, ke, le, me, ne, ue		



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Year 4	Cursive Script	Cursive Script	Cursive Script	
	Third join – diagonal join from a letter	Fourth join – join to letters with hooks, lines	Consolidation:	
	with an ascender/descender to a letter	and loops:		
	with an ascender/descender:		Recap on the 4 basic joins.	
	Ib, kl, ll, ph, pl, pt, bl, th, tt	ga, ge, gi, gl, go, gr, gs, gu, wh, ya, ye, yi, yo,		
		yu	Recap on specific letter joins to ensure	
	Third join – horizontal join from to a letter		children are writing in a fluent style.	
	with an ascender:	Practise writing words with capital letters.		
	ob, oh, ok, ol, ot, rt		Focused practice on words and sentences	
		Practise combining all 4 joins when writing	that combine all four letter joins.	
	Fourth join – join to letters with hooks,	sentences.		
	lines and loops:			
	ja, je, ji, jo, ju, fa, fe, fi, fo, fr, ft, fu	Practise printing using geographical		
		vocabulary.		
		Final consolidation of all joins.		
UKS2	Pupils will focus on maintaining a consistent and fluent style. They will work towards earning a 'pen licence'. Pupils will practice maintaining legibility when writing at speed.			
	Pupils will continue to improve handwriting through writing more sustained passages of writing, both copied and from their imagination.			