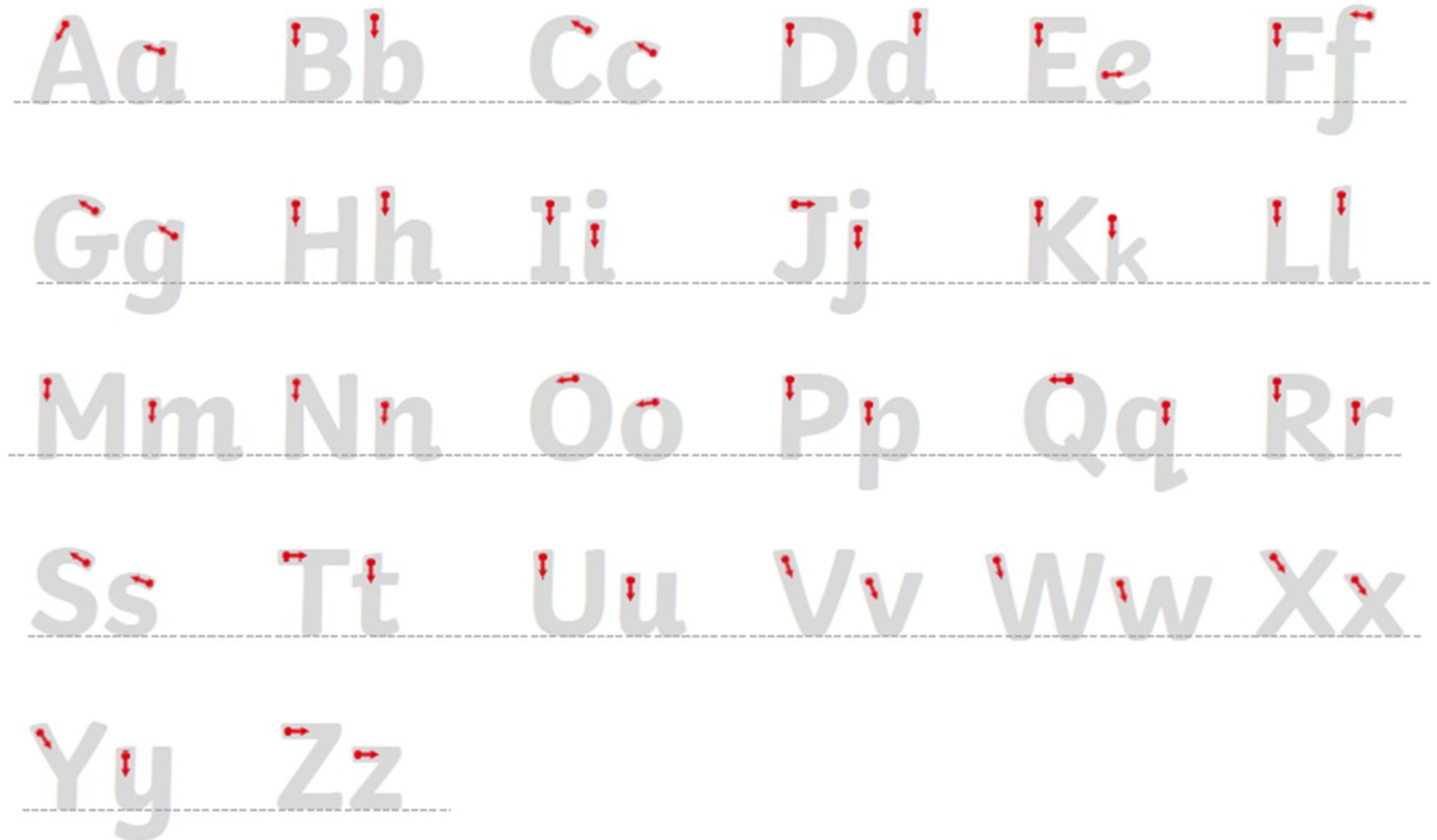


Handwriting at Emscote Infant School



Once children are able to hold a pencil correctly, children are taught letter formation. In reception the children start with Nelson Handwriting. Pattern making is an important step to handwriting and control as a start. Lower case letter and number formation begins, followed by Capital Letters. Letter formation generally starts from the top of letters.

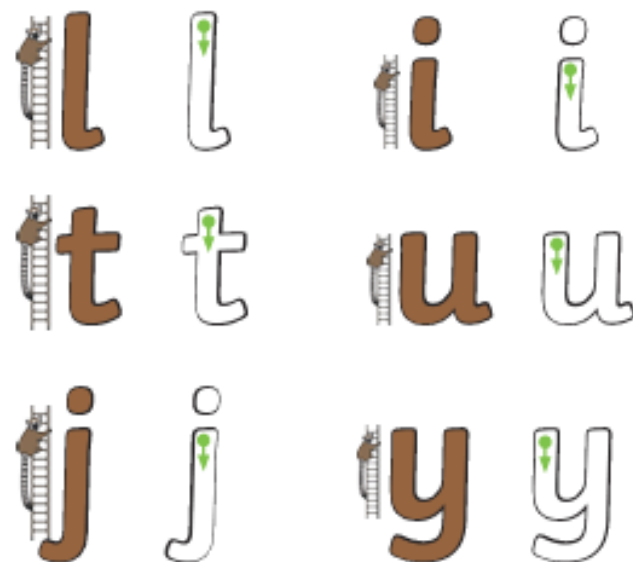


Letters are usually taught in different groups according to their formation pattern. Lower case letters are initially taught, followed by capital letters. Number formation is also taught as part of handwriting.

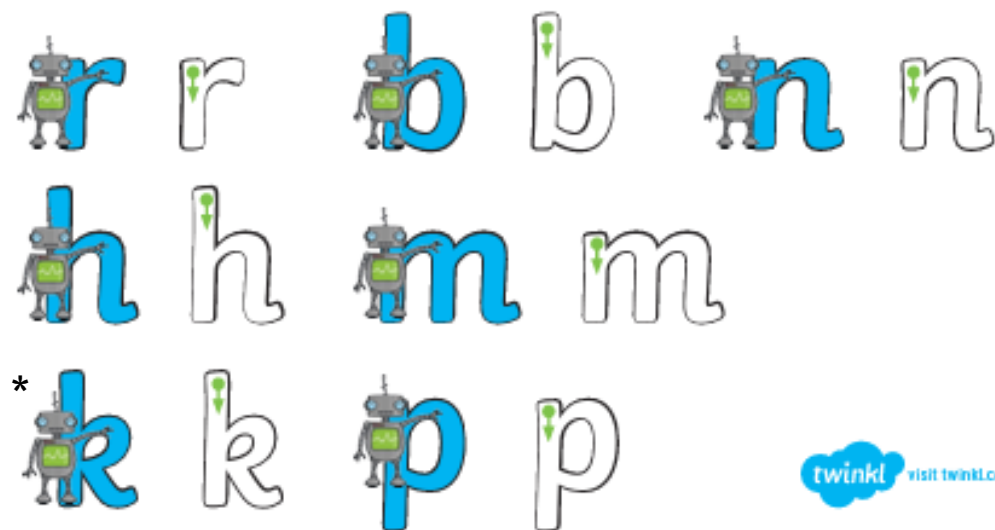
Curly Caterpillar Letters



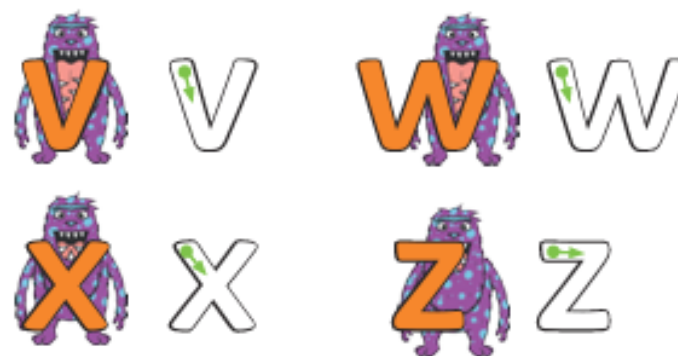
Ladder Letters



One Armed Robot Letters



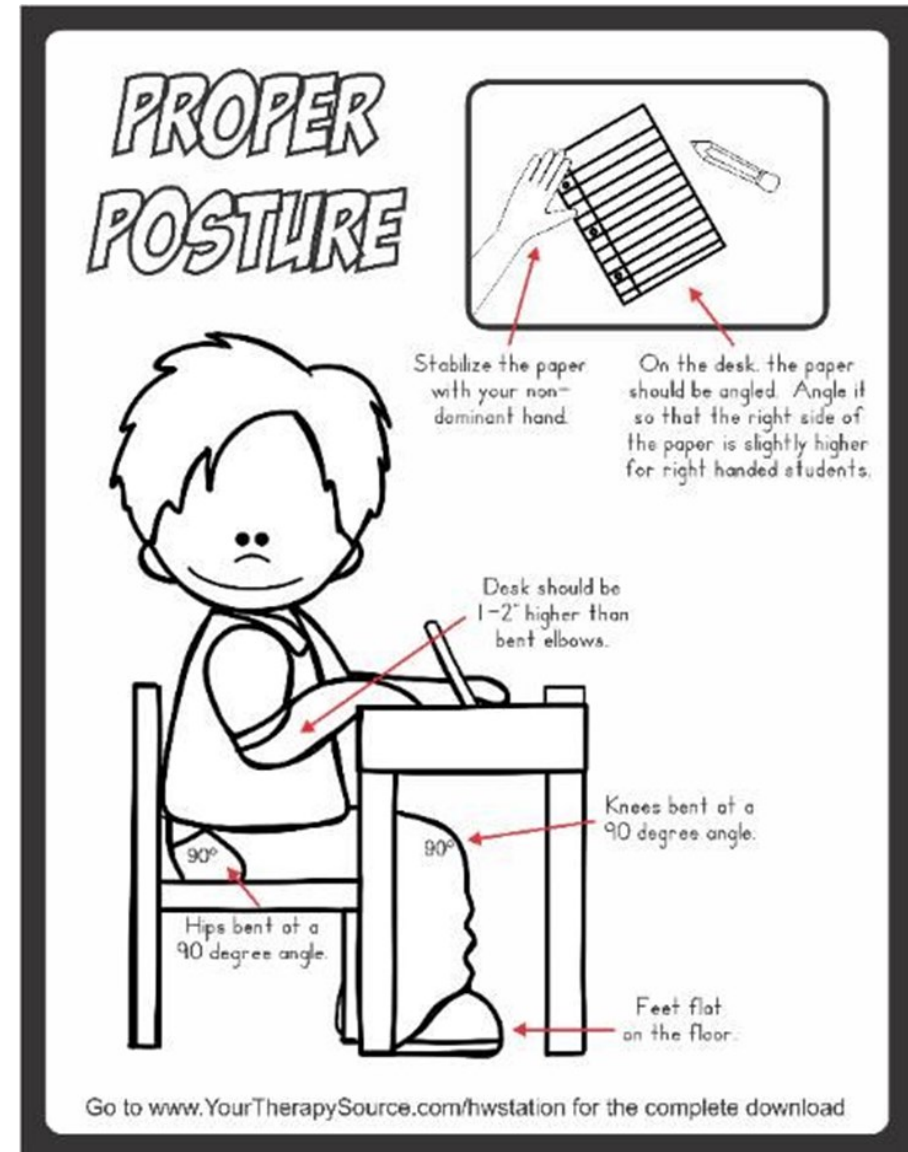
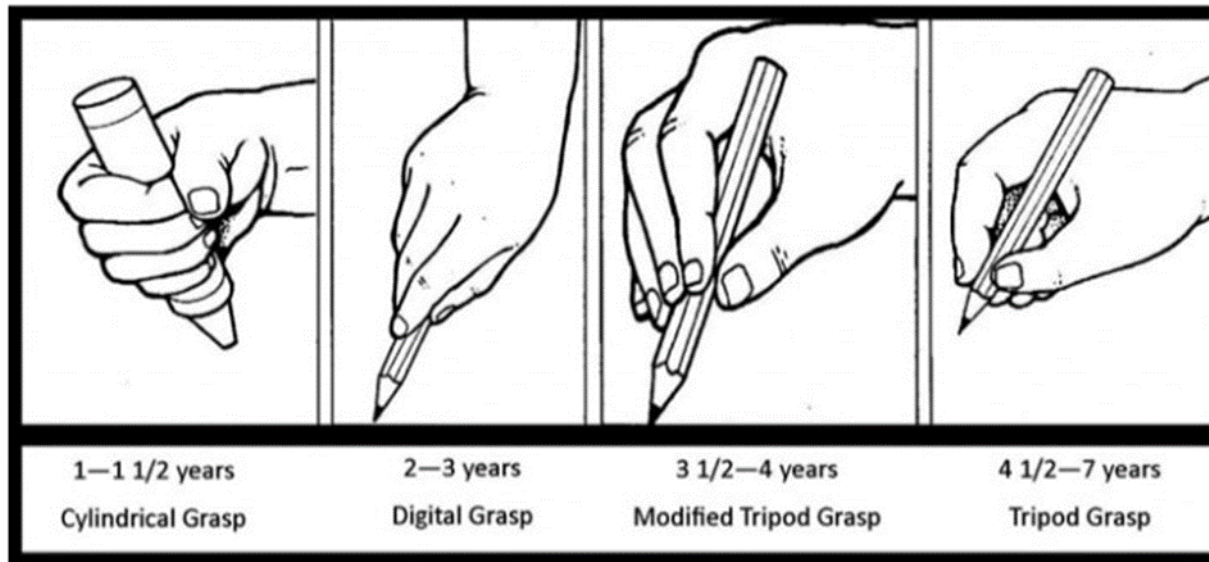
Zigzag Monster Letters



* Note: to start with the letter k is taught by kicking out from the centre (Floppy's Phonics) rather than a curly form which is taught when joining.

Handwriting: Pencil Grip and Posture

- Having a secure pencil grip is vital for muscle memory and to avoid forming bad habits.
- It's the same for left or right handed writers.
- There are various grips to help children hold their pencil correctly. We use tripod pencil grips (shown in yellow).
- Sitting correctly is also an important part of writing properly.



Year 1 to Year 2

Pre-cursive Handwriting

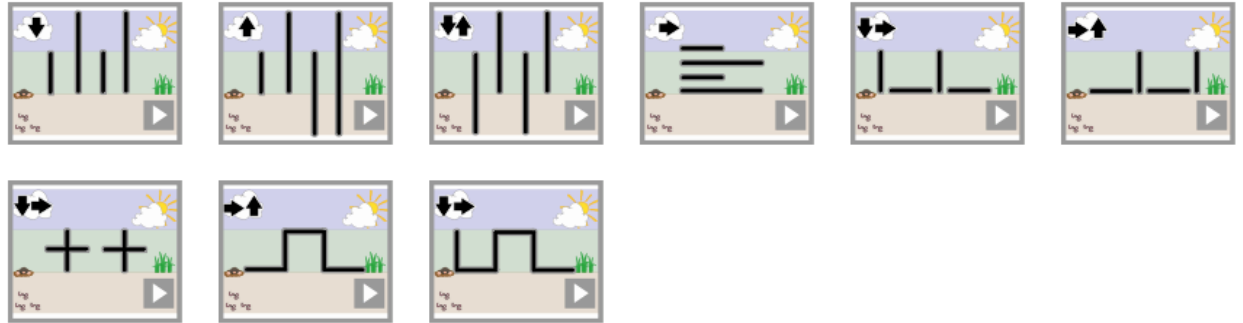
Before moving on to pre-cursive and joined handwriting, it is important that children can form their standard letters correctly and of similar size and orientation. Once the children are confident and are ready for the next stage of handwriting, they are taught the pre-cursive handwriting style which starts to introduce the beginnings of joined handwriting.

We follow an online scheme:

teachhandwriting.co.uk

To begin with, children practise different handwriting patterns to help develop control and accuracy.

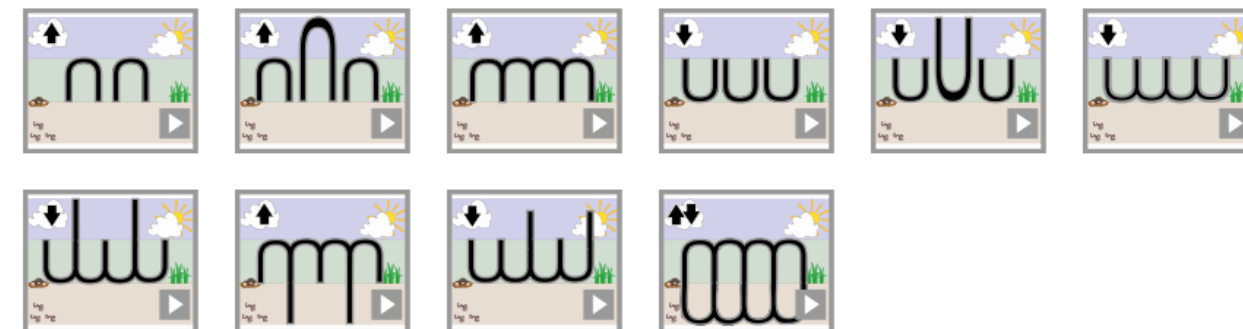
Straight pre-handwriting patterns



Cursive pre-handwriting patterns



Tunnel pre-handwriting patterns



Diagonal pre-handwriting patterns



Year 1 and Year 2

Pre-cursive Handwriting

Children continue to practise patterns throughout Key Stage 1.

Once children show good pencil control, they are taught formation of the different letters.

All letters in the cursive style start from the bottom line and have a swish out which begins to start the development of joined handwriting.

Aa Bb Cc Dd

Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii

Jj Kk Ll Mm

Nn Oo Pp Qq

Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv

Ww Xx Yy Zz

Pre-Cursive Handwriting

Letters are taught in letter families to develop the necessary skills for continuing to joining.

Straight lines



Curves to start



Top Exit



Tunnels



Hooks and Loops



Joining

Once children have mastered the formation, they are taught to join the letters together. This starts with joining phonemes and moves to joining spelling patterns. Joining generally begins as the end of Year 1 or the start of Year 2. This helps to increase speed and fluency in writing.

This is how I write my letters at Emscote Infant School.