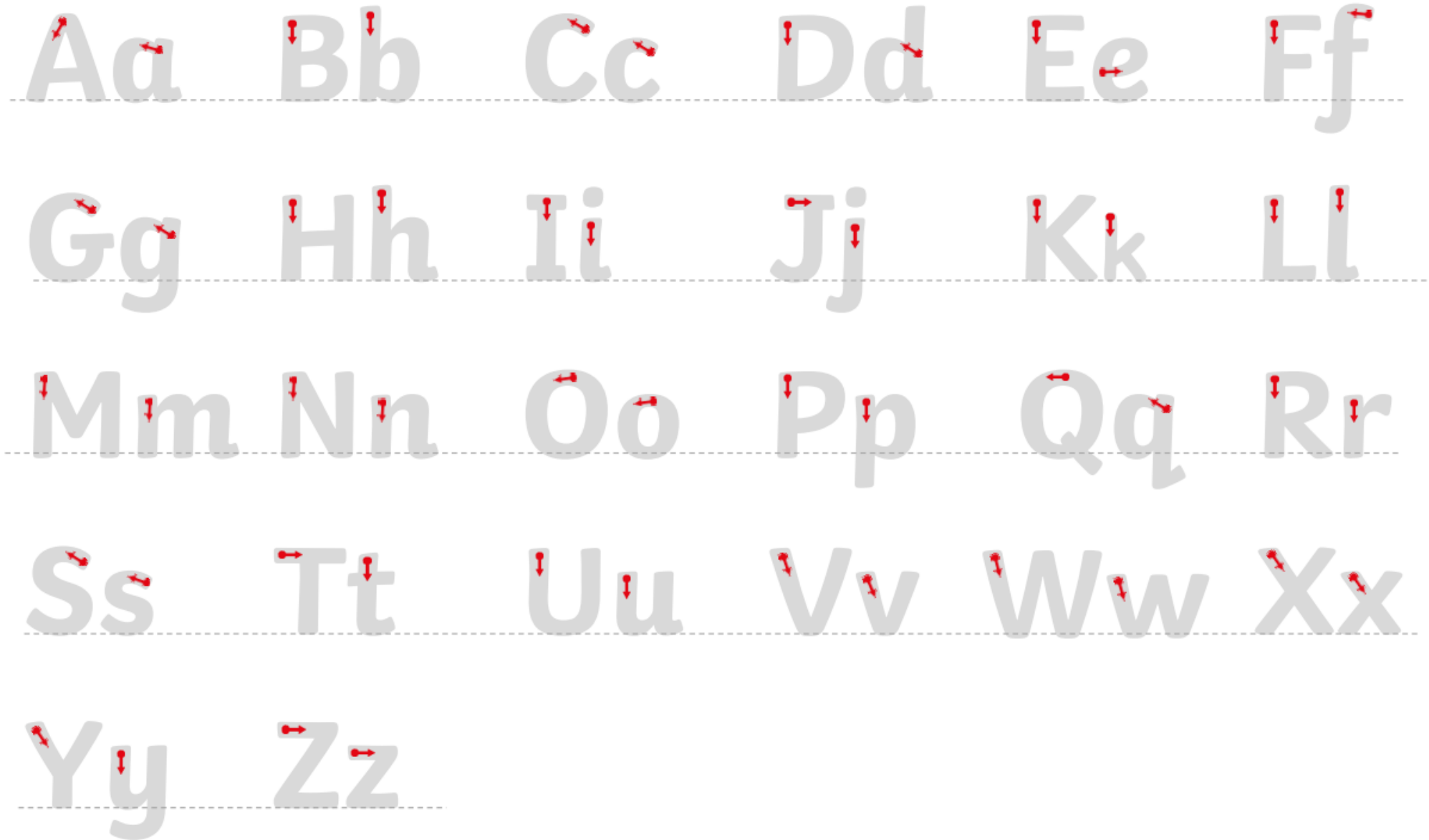


Handwriting at Emscote Infant School

Once children are able to hold a pencil correctly, children are taught letter formation. In reception and Year 1 the children use 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 or middle of letters (never on the line).



Year R and Year 1

To support handwriting the children use rhymes from Read Write Inc to help their letter formation.

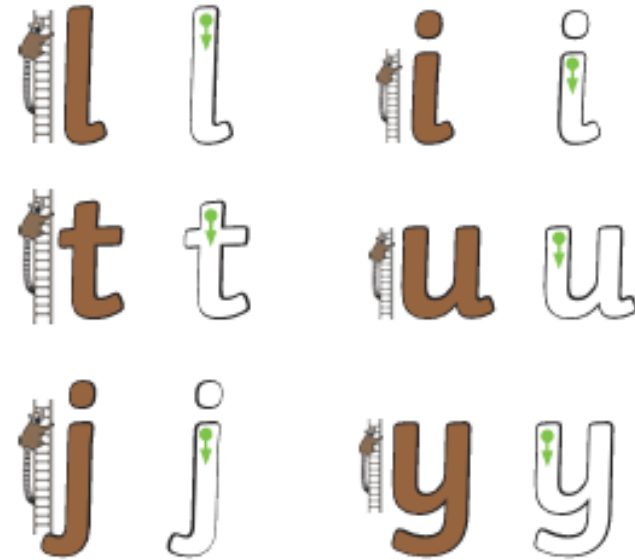
 <p>a</p>	 <p>b</p>	 <p>c</p>	 <p>d</p>	 <p>e</p>	 <p>f</p>
<p>Around the apple and down the leaf.</p>	<p>Down the laces to the heel and around the toe.</p>	<p>Curl around the caterpillar.</p>	<p>Around the dinosaurs bottom, up his tall neck & down to his toes.</p>	<p>Lift off the top and scoop out the egg.</p>	<p>Down the stem and draw the leaves.</p>
 <p>g</p>	 <p>h</p>	 <p>i</p>	 <p>j</p>	 <p>k</p>	 <p>l</p>
<p>Around the girls face, down her hair and give her a curl.</p>	<p>Down the head, to his hooves and over his back.</p>	<p>Down the body and dot for the head.</p>	<p>Down his body, curl, dot for his head.</p>	<p>Down the kangaroo's body tail and leg.</p>	<p>Down the long leg.</p>
 <p>m</p>	 <p>n</p>	 <p>o</p>	 <p>p</p>	 <p>qu</p>	 <p>r</p>
<p>Down Maisie, mountain, mountain.</p>	<p>Down Nobby and over his net.</p>	<p>All around the orange.</p>	<p>Down the pirates plait and around his face.</p>	<p>Round her head, up past her earring, down her hair, and flick.</p>	<p>Down the robots back and curl over his arm.</p>
 <p>s</p>	 <p>t</p>	 <p>u</p>	 <p>v</p>	 <p>w</p>	 <p>x</p>
<p>Slither down the snake.</p>	<p>Down the tower, across the tower.</p>	<p>Down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle.</p>	<p>Down a wing, up a wing.</p>	<p>Down, up, down, up.</p>	<p>Down the arm and leg, repeat the other side.</p>
 <p>y</p>	 <p>z</p>				
<p>Down a horn, up a horn and under head.</p>	<p>Zig-zag-zig.</p>				

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.

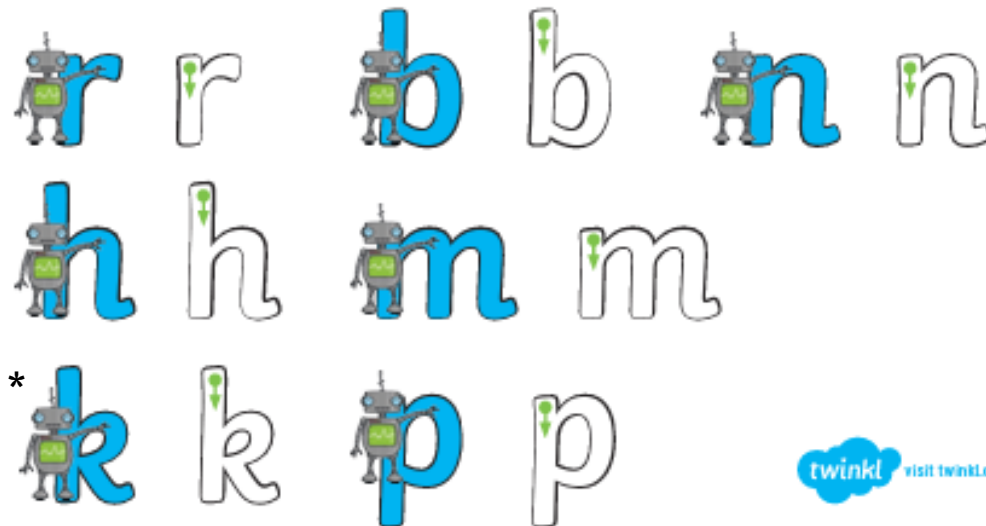
Curly Caterpillar Letters



Ladder Letters



One Armed Robot Letters



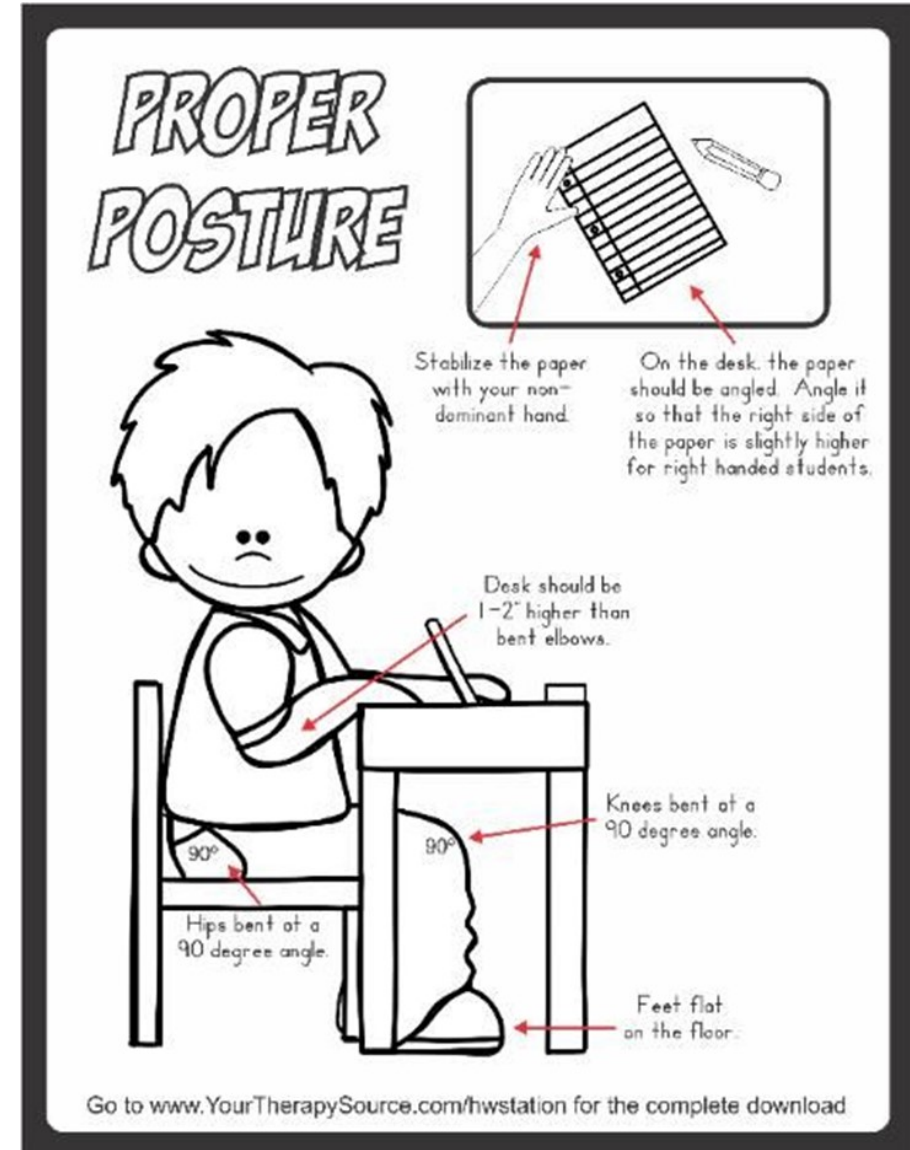
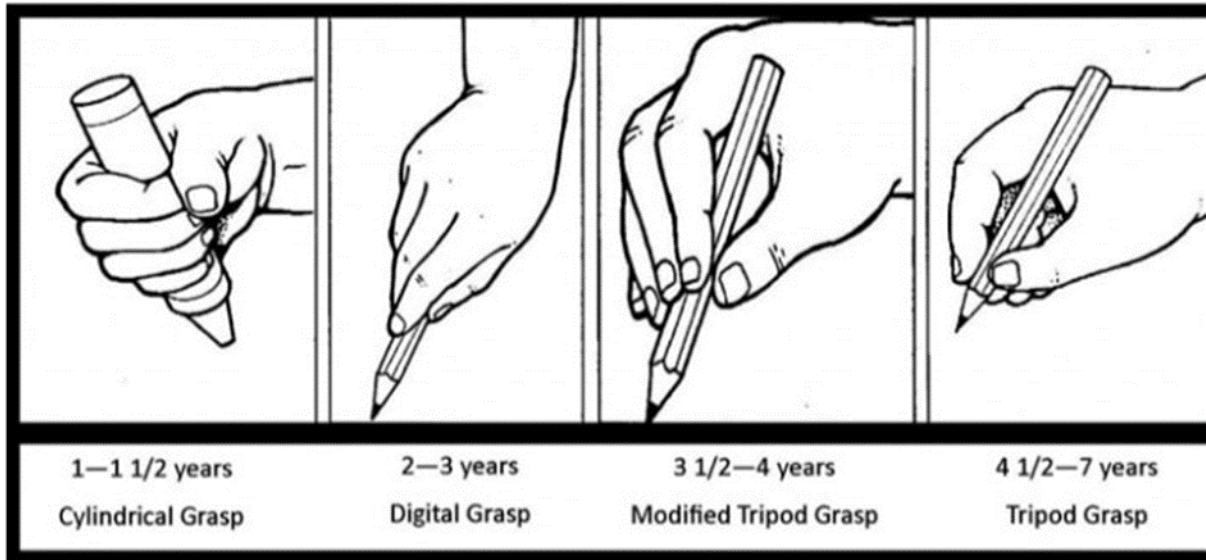
Zigzag Monster Letters



* 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 2

Pre-cursive Handwriting

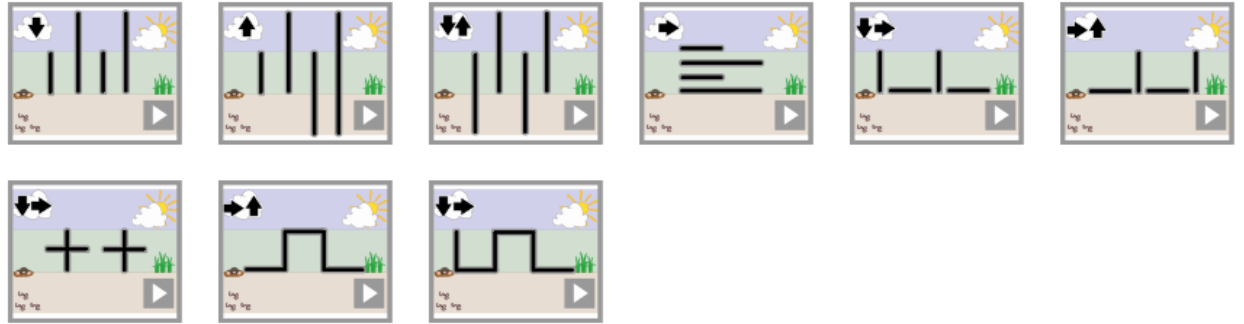
Before moving on to pre-cursive and joined handwriting, it is important that children can form their standard letters correctly and of similar size and orientation. Once the children are confident and are ready for the next stage of handwriting, they are taught the pre-cursive handwriting style which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

We follow an online scheme:

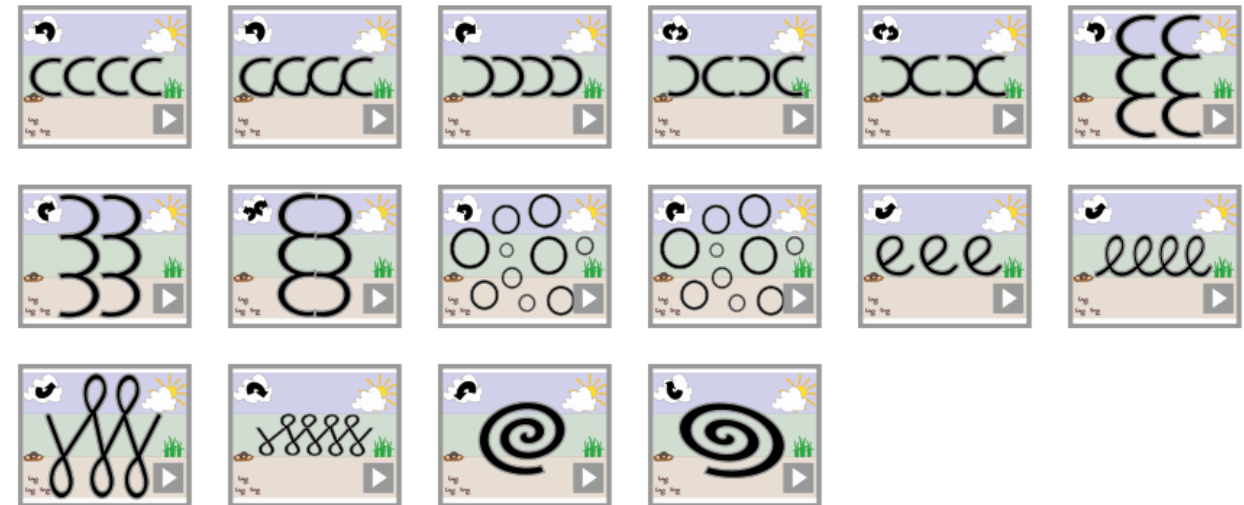
teachhandwriting.co.uk

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

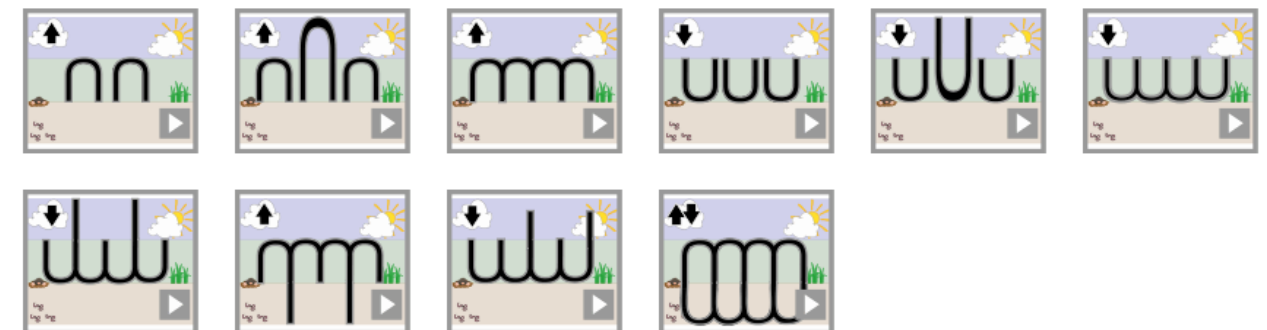
Straight pre-handwriting patterns



Cursive pre-handwriting patterns



Tunnel pre-handwriting patterns



Diagonal pre-handwriting patterns



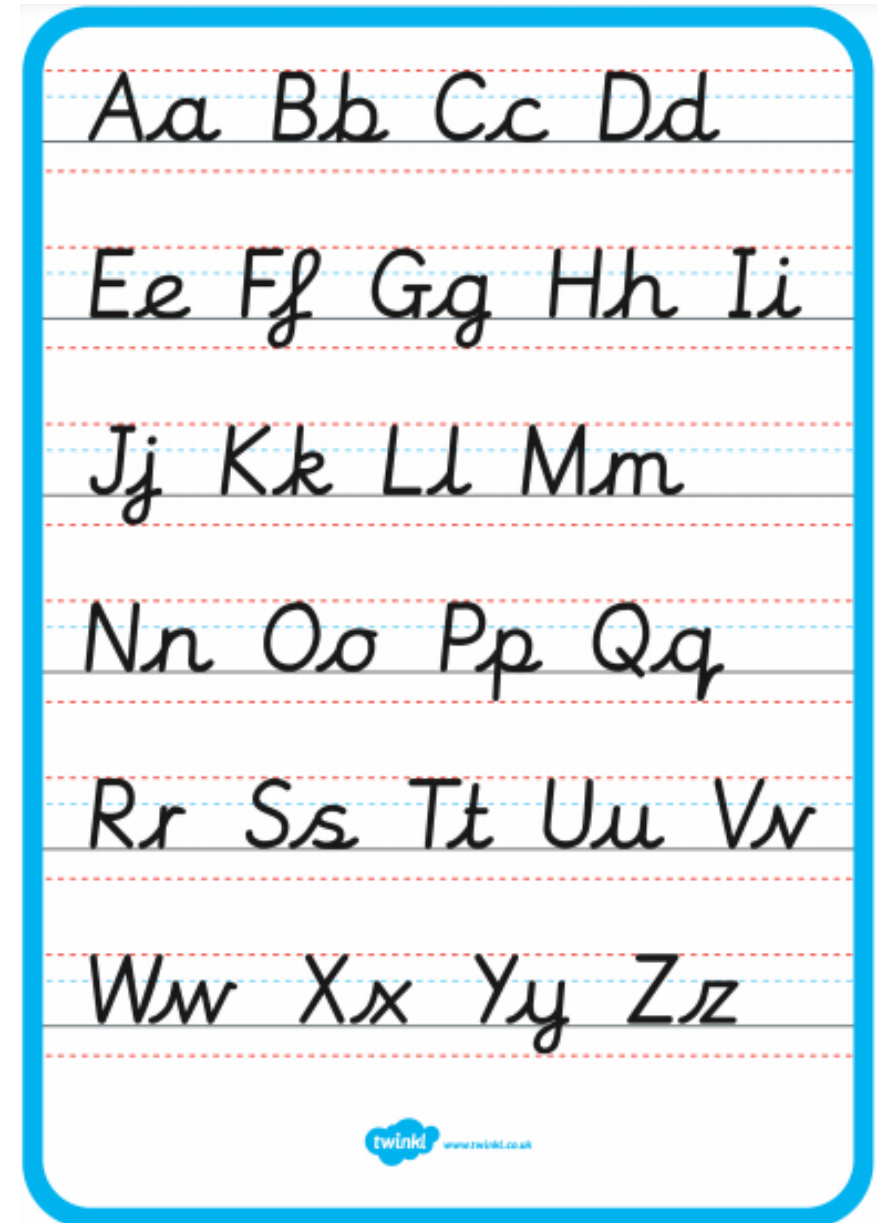
Year 2

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.



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 will begin when children are ready during Year 2. This helps to increase speed and fluency in writing.

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