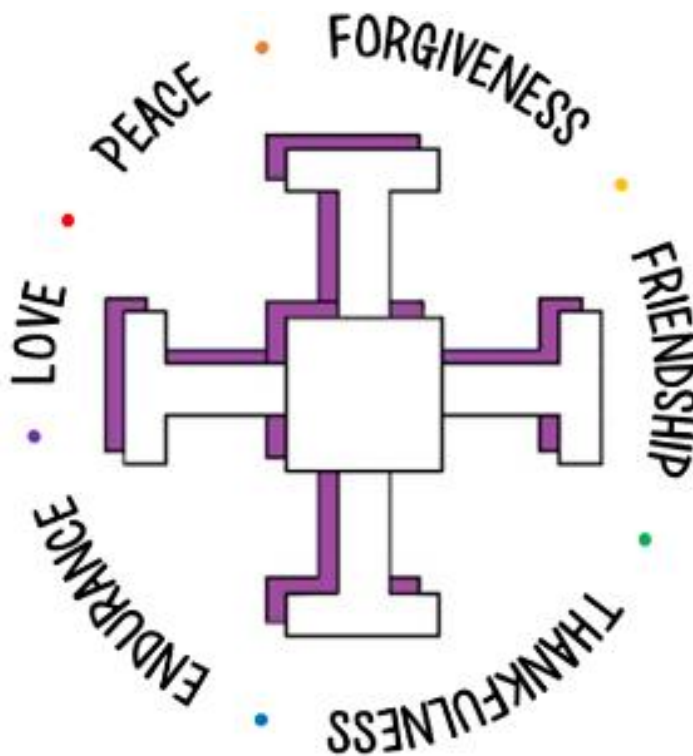


Christ Church CE Primary School

'Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old, they will not depart from it.' Proverbs 22:6



EYFS and KS1 Handwriting Guidance




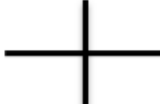


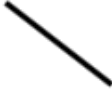


'We value all children as unique 'Children of God' and welcome them into our safe, loving and supportive Christ Church family. We endeavour to use nurture to encourage individuals to flourish and aspire to reach their God given potential. We rejoice in our rich diversity and our broad, balanced curriculum provides opportunities for all to achieve excellence, open minds and inspire dreams both now and the future.'

Achieving excellence, opening minds, inspiring dreams, creating futures.






Handwriting in EYFS at Christ Church CE Primary

A Child's handwriting journey begins in Nursery once they begin to explore with writing implements and make marks. Children will begin 'handwriting' with 'Pre-handwriting shapes' as outlines below. These shapes will ensure that pupils have the control needed in order to form letters:

	1		2		3
	4		5		6
	7		8		9

In Early Years, when writing letters, pupils are taught to 'print' letters in line with statutory guidance: It is only with this basic 'print' understanding that pupils will then move onto form letters in a 'continuous cursive' formation.

The teaching of letter formation in EYFS will follow the same sequence as RWI and the letter rhymes provided:

m	Maisie, mountain, mountain	
a	round the apple, down the leaf	
s	slither down the snake	
d	round his bottom, up his tall neck and down to his feet	
t	down the tower, across the tower	
i	down the body, dot for the head	
n	down Nobby, over his net	
p	down the plait and over the pirate's face	
g	round her face, down her hair and give her a curl	
o	all around the orange	
c	curl around the caterpillar	
k	down the kangaroo's body, tail and leg	
u	down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle	
b	down the laces to the heel, round the toe	
f	down the stem and draw the leaves	
e	lift off the top and scoop out the egg	
l	down the long leg	
h	down the head to the hooves and over his back	
r	down his back and then curl over his arm	
j	down his body, curl and dot	
v	down a wing, up a wing	
y	down a horn, up a horn and under his head	
w	down, up, down, up	
z	zig-zag-zig	
q	round her head, up past her earrings and down her hair	
x	down the arm and leg and repeat the other side	

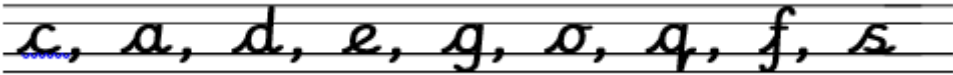
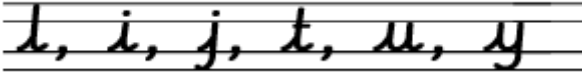
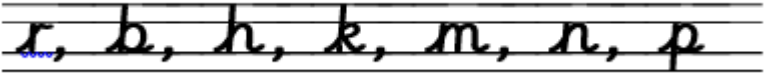
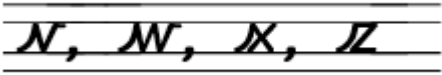
Pupils will be given a wide range of engaging activities throughout provision to develop their fine motor skills in order to form letters correctly.

Handwriting in Key Stage One at Christ Church CE Primary

Once the children are confident with printing their letters, as outlined in the EYFS guidance, they will begin to form letters in a 'continuous cursive' font. This means that letters will begin to have a 'lead in', known as a 'say hello' to pupils.

Pupils will continue their handwriting journey using the RWI letter rhymes and sequence of teaching, however they will now add in, 'say hello'. For example. 'Maisie mountain, mountain' will become 'say hello, Maisie mountain, mountain'. Examples of all, along with the RWI images are included further on.

Also in Key Stage One, children will become aware of the 4 different letter families:

Letter Formation	
Family One	Anti-clockwise letters
1. The first family of letters – the anti-clockwise letters are known as 'Curly Caterpillar Letters'.	
	
Family Two	Long Ladder Letters
2. The second family of letters - down and off in another direction are known as the 'Long Ladder Letters'.	
	
Family Three	One Armed Robot Letters
3. The third family of letters – with a stick and a curve are known as the 'One Armed Robot Letters'.	
	
Family Four	Zig Zag Monster Letters
4. The fourth family of letters – 'Zig Zag Letters'.	
	

Letter formation should be modelled making reference to the teaching in RWI. The example below should be displayed in classrooms and readily available for children to refer back to. Continuous cursive is taught as 'Say hello' to each letter.

Upper Case...

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

NB: CAPITAL LETTERS DO NOT JOIN AND THEREFORE DO NOT HAVE A SAY HELLO.

Numbers...


0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Getting ready to write

Throughout EYFS and KS1, pupils pencil grip will be developed throughout the following stages until they have the desired 'Dynamic Tripod Grip'


Stages of Pencil Grip in Chronological Age

1 to 2 Years Old: Fisted grasp or Palmar Supinate Grasp




- Pencil is held in the palm.
- All fingers and thumb are used.
- Movement is from the shoulder; the arm and the hand move as a unit.
- Light scribbles are produced with this pencil grip.

2 to 3 Years Old: Digital Pronate Grasp



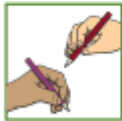
- All fingers are holding the pencil but the wrist is turned so that the palm is facing down towards the page.
- Movement comes mostly from the elbow and the shoulder is now stabilized.
- Horizontal lines, vertical lines and circular lines are able to be copied.

3 to 4 Years Old: Four-Finger Grasp




- Fingers are held on the pencil shaft opposite the thumb, beginning to form the arc between the thumb and index finger.
- Movement occurs from the wrist; the hand and fingers move as a whole unit.
- Zigzag lines, crossed lines and simple humans can be drawn with this grip.

4 to 6 Years Old: Static Tripod Grasp or Static Quadropod Grasp




- A three-finger grasp, where the thumb, index finger and middle finger work as one unit.
- Movement is usually from the wrist with this static grasp.
- A static quadropod grip has a fourth finger involved.
- Triangles, circles and squares can be copied with this grip.

6 to 7 Years Old: Dynamic Tripod Grasp



- Pencil is held in a stable position between the thumb, index and middle finger.
- The ring and little fingers are bent and rest comfortably on the table.
- The index finger and thumb form an open space.
- Movement comes from the fingertips.
- This is the ideal grip to move the pencil efficiently, accurately and for letter formation practice.


visit [twinkl.com](https://www.twinkl.com)

Posture

Feet flat on the floor

Head up, not resting on the desk or hand

Paper at the correct angle

Spare hand steadies the paper

