

Once the entry and exit 'flicks' are confidently in place children will be encouraged to join their letters.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

The quick brown fox jumps
over the lazy dog. Baa baa
black sheep, have you any
wool? Yes sir, yes sir, three
bags full.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
XYZ 0123456789

Why Cursive Handwriting?

- By making each letter in one movement, children's hands develop a 'physical memory' of it, making it easier to produce the correct shape.
- All letters flow from left to right making it less likely for children to reverse letters.
- There is a clear distinction between upper and lower case letters.
- The continuous flow of writing ultimately improves speed of writing and aids accurate spelling.

Things to remember

- All the letters start on the line.
- The majority of letters finish on the line with a 'flick' ready to join the next letter.
- For the majority of words the pencil does not leave the page until the word is finished. (exceptions are words which include f and x)
- t is crossed and i is dotted once the word is written
- Capital letters and numbers always start at the top

Pencil grip:

- Encourage your child to hold their pencil comfortably between the thumb and forefinger with the middle finger providing support.
- It is important that guidance is sought from school if you are unsure as children develop a grip at different times and shouldn't be 'forced'.

Posture:

- A child's seat and table should be a comfortable height and your child should be encouraged to sit up straight.

Paper position:

- For most children paper should be on the right and slightly tilted to the left.
- If your child is left handed then extra encouragement is needed.
- A left hander makes joining strokes that are pushed whereas a right hander pulls.

REMEMBER THAT IF YOUR CHILD SEES YOU WRITING THEN THEY ARE LIKELY TO FOLLOW AND JOIN IN!