

Handwriting tips for parents

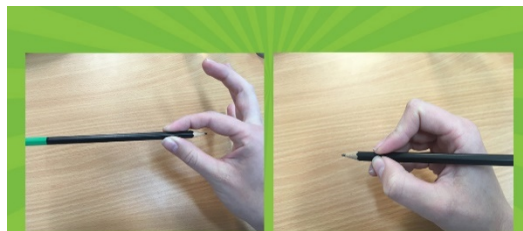
It is really important to develop strong handwriting habits in the first year of school. It allows students to enjoy writing and experience success. Incorrect formation and pencil grip can make it harder for children to write larger pieces of writing as time goes on .

Some tips for practising the correct formation of letters at home with your child.

- Provide lots of opportunities for repeated practice and give your child regular feedback.
- If your child is struggling to form letters correctly, you may want to begin with tracing and then move on to copying. You might also want to try some of our suggested fine motor activities to build the fine muscle strength.
- It's also a good idea to emphasis where to start when writing the letters e.g. putting a star for the starting point.
- Talk to your child about tall or head and body letters (e.g. t, f), letters with a tail (e.g. y, g, p) and body letters (e.g. a, s, o)

Pencil Grip-

It is very important to ensure students use the correct pencil grip.



Focus mostly on lower case letters, they can be a little trickier, but do form most of our writing. Children do tend to revert to capitals or upper case as they can be easier to write.

Try grouping letters into similar types of letters, so that children can focus on a particular skill.

- Downstroke pattern e.g. i, l, t, x
- Hopping pattern (Clockwise) e.g. m, r, h, p
- Wave pattern (Anticlockwise) e.g. a, o, g, e, s, q

The following two pages outline how to form each letter and number, including the start point and order of strokes. Please use this to guide talk with your child around letter formation. We have also included a page that you could use to trace over.

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

1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10

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

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10