

# Handwriting

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Since 2018, we have been using the the widely recommended handwriting style called continuous cursive. Its most important feature is that each letter is formed without taking the pencil off the paper – and consequently, each word is formed in one, flowing movement. When learning each letter we tell the children: “Start on the line and you’ll be fine!”

# The key advantages to this system are:

- By making each letter in one movement, children's hands develop a 'physical memory' of it, making it easier to produce the correct shape;
  - Having a lead in and out stroke avoids confusion about where to begin letter formation;
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- Because letters and words flow from left to right, children are less likely to reverse letters which are typically difficult (like b/d or p/q);
  - There is a clearer distinction between capital letters and lower case;
  - The continuous flow of writing ultimately improves speed and spelling;
  - It helps children's writing to be clear, fluent legible and fast.
  - This has also proved beneficial for children with poor hand control and for dyslexic children.
  - The pencil does not often need to be lifted from the page – this reinforces phonic and spelling patterns.



# Our continuous cursive script

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

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