



## Turnfurlong Infant School Handwriting

<b>Nursery</b>	Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
<b>Reception</b>	
<b>Year 1</b>	Key Stage 1 (KS1)
<b>Year 2</b>	

Children’s development of handwriting skills begins in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Our Early Years curriculum in Nursery and Reception is based on the Department for Education’s non-statutory document ‘Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage’ (2023).

In Reception, the children start to learn phonics (the code that teaches children about the sounds that different letters make) and this is when they are introduced to letters and the sounds that they make. We use the Read Write Inc scheme to teach phonics. Read Write Inc uses pictures and rhymes to teach children how the letters are formed (mnemonics) and in Reception we use these rhymes to teach children how to write letters correctly.

In Nursery, and in Reception, children are also developing, learning and practising a range of physical and creative skills that support handwriting development:

Nursery - Two and three year olds are learning and practising	
<b>Physical Development</b>	<p>Using large and small motor skills to do things independently, for example manage buttons and zips, and pour drinks.</p> <p>Developing manipulation and control through things that they can grasp and hold such as different types of paper, fabric, small world toys</p> <p>Exploring different materials and tools e.g. playdough, clay, natural materials</p>
<b>Writing</b>	<p>Enjoying drawing freely with a variety of mark making materials.</p> <p>Adding some marks to their drawings, which they give meaning to. For example: “That says mummy.”</p> <p>How to make marks on their picture to stand for their name.</p>

Nursery - Three and four year olds are learning and practising	
<b>Physical Development</b>	<p>How to use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, when making snips in paper with scissors at the gluing and sticking table</p> <p>How to use a comfortable tripod grip with good control when holding pens and pencils in self-chosen and adult directed activities</p> <p>How to use large-muscle arm movements e.g. to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks</p> <p>A preference for a dominant hand</p>

<b>Writing</b>	<p>How to use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; writing 'm' for mummy.</p> <p>How to write some or all of their name.</p> <p>How to write some letters accurately.</p>
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<b>Reception - Four and five year olds are</b>	
<b>Physical Development</b>	<p>Developing their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. This will include paintbrushes, scissors, pencils and pens and areas of the classrooms such as the gluing and sticking table and the junk modelling area.</p> <p>Continuing to develop their core strength and stability through climbing, crawling, hanging and pulling themselves up on the outdoor climbing resources and in PE lessons.</p> <p>Developing and using their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor.</p> <p>Developing the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.</p>
<b>Writing</b>	<p>Learning how to form lower-case letters correctly using the Read Write Inc rhymes (Stage 1 of the Read Write Inc handwriting scheme).</p>

## Year 1 and Year 2 – Key Stage One

In Year 1 and Year 2 we teach handwriting using the Read Write Inc handwriting scheme. Handwriting is taught in a weekly thirty-minute session within the Year 1 and Year 2 timetable using the Letter Village films and letter formation family films. These films introduce new 'picture hooks' to help children 'visualise to memorise' the shape of the letters.

The Read Write Inc handwriting scheme teaches handwriting in four stages as follows:

<b>Stage 1</b>	<b>Reception</b>	Children learn how to form letters correctly with the Read Write letter rhymes (mnemonics)		
<b>Stage 2</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<p><b>Children learn the relative size of letters and to form letters that will flow easily into a joined style.</b></p> <p>Letters are taught in formation families to teach which way round to write letters and where they start and finish. Letters with the same pattern are taught as a group.</p> <p>In the Read Write Inc scheme letters are also described to teach children the relative size of letters and where they sit on lined paper as follows:</p> <p><i>Sun letters: b d f h k l t (ascenders stretching up to the sky)</i></p> <p><i>Boat letters: a, c, e, l, m, n, o, r, s, u, v, w, x, z (small letters that sit on the line/water)</i></p> <p><i>Water letters: g, j, p, q, y (descenders submerging under the water)</i></p>	<p>Letter formation families:</p> <p>a,d,g,o,c,q</p> <p>u,y</p> <p>b,p</p> <p>h,n,m,r</p> <p>e,s,f,i</p> <p>t,k,l,j</p> <p>v,w,x,z</p>	<p>Review words:</p> <p>dug, dog, add day, daddy, cod</p> <p>bad, bug, body yap, puppy, good</p> <p>hug, hop, happy and, bun, hand map, mug, man</p> <p>egg, queen, deep sunny, dress fluffy, huff, floppy flip, spin, igloo</p> <p>long, well, smelly trap, teeth, attic knock, kitten, kick jump, jacket, jolly</p> <p>love, have, give what, which, when fox, box zebra, zoo, quiz</p>

<p><b>Stage 3</b></p>	<p><b>Year 2</b></p>	<p><b>Children start to join pairs of letters and words using diagonal and horizontal joins.</b>          In the Read Write Inc scheme, diagonal joins are called 'arms' and horizontal joins are called 'washing lines'</p>	<p>Joins:</p> <p>Diagonal join (arm to sun) e.g. ab, ah, ak</p> <p>Diagonal join (arm to boat) e.g. ti, tu, ty, tw</p> <p>Diagonal join (arm to sister) e.g. ic, ka, ko, la, ld, lo</p> <p>Horizontal join (washing line to boat) e.g. vi, vu, wi, wr, wy, we</p> <p>Horizontal join (washing line to sun) e.g. wh, wl, rb, rh, fl</p> <p>Horizontal join (washing line to sister) e.g. va, vo, wa, wo</p> <p>Letters that do not join to others (no curls) g, j, y, q</p>	
<p><b>Stage 4</b></p>	<p><b>Year 2</b></p>	<p>Children are developing a mature and speedy style</p>		

Each stage meets the National Curriculum requirements for handwriting from Reception to the end of Year 2.