

## Handwriting Guide for Parents Letter formation

Letters are taught in the following groups:

### Straight letters

Pencil starts at the top and descends.

i l t u

### 2 o'clock letters

Pencil starts at 2 o'clock position and takes an anticlockwise turn.

c a d g q s

### Tunnel letters

Pencil starts at the top, descends and goes back up the line.

n m h b p

### Top joiners

These letters are grouped together because (when children start to join up) they all lead into the next letter from the top of the letter.

o r v w

### Square letters

Pencil starts at the top. X -pencil is taken off the page to cross.

x z

### Odd letters

These five letters do not follow a pattern.

f k j y e

Individual letters are taught using the following sayings which are accompanied by pictures: <b>Sound</b>	<b>Saying</b>	<b>Picture</b>
m	Down Maisie, mountain, mountain	Mountain
a	Round the apple, down the leaf	Apple
s	Slither around the snake	Snake
d	Round the dinosaur's back, up his neck, down his feet	Dinosaur
t	Down the tower and flick, then across the tower.	Tower
<b>Sound</b>	<b>Saying</b>	<b>Picture</b>
i	Down the insect's body, flick and a dot for the head	Insect
n	Down Nobby, up over his net and flick	Net
p	Down the pirate's plait, up and over his face	Pirate
g	Round the girl's face, down her hair and give her a curl.	Girl
o	All around the orange	Orange

Sound	Saying	Picture
c	Curl around the caterpillar	Caterpillar
k	Down the kangaroo's body, pen off, kick in, kick out	Kangaroo
u	Down and under the umbrella, up to the top and down to the puddle.	Umbrella
b	Down the laces, up over the toe, touch the heel	Boot
Sound	Saying	Picture
f	Down the stem, pen of, and draw the leaves.	Flower
e	Slice into the egg, for over the top, then under the egg	Egg
l	Down the long leg and flick.	Leg
h	Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his	Horse
sh	Slither around the snake and flick. Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back	No picture

Sound	Saying	Picture
r	Down the robot's back, then curl over his arm	Robot
j	Down the jack-in-the-box's body, curl and dot.	Jack-in-the-box
v	Down a wing, up a wing	Vulture
y	Down a horn, up a horn and under his head.	Yak
w	Down, up, down, up	Worm
Sound	Saying	Picture
th	Down the tower and flick, then across the tower. Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back	No picture
z	Zig-zag-zig and flick.	Zip
ch	Curl around the caterpillar and flick. Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back	No picture
q	Round the queen's head, up past her earrings and down her hair and flick.	Queen
x	Down the arm and leg and repeat the other side.	Exercise

ng	Down Nobby, up over his net and flick. Round the girl's face, down her hair and give her a curl.	No picture
nk	Down Nobby, up over his net and flick. Down the kangaroo's body, pen off, kick in, kick	No picture