

WILTHORPE INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL



A GUIDE TO HANDWRITING

The table should support the forearm so that it rests lightly on the surface, and is parallel to the floor. Children should be encouraged to sit up with a straight back.

Left-handed children need extra support and encouragement and should hold their pencil far enough away from the point to see what they are writing (putting their paper at an angle may help). Within Nursery we provide opportunities for continuous mark making, and aim to develop correct posture and pencil grip. We introduce letter formation when it is appropriate for the individual child.

To ensure consistency and continuity throughout the school, the attached letter formation format will be used. Each letter starts from the line.

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

All letters start on the line

_____ x ↗

Children develop writing skills by progressing through different stages.



I can make
marks



I can make marks
I call writing



I write
Letters I know

The above stages can all be developed by providing encouragement, a variety of materials, modelling writing and letter formation activities.

It is important to remember that all children develop at different rates.

When children are getting ready to write, they should be taught to hold a pencil comfortably in a tripod grip, held lightly between the thumb and forefinger, about 3 cm from the point.