**Handwriting across all year groups**

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| **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Year 6** |
| Sit correctly at a table and hold a pencil correctly.  Hold a pencil with an effective grip.  Form lower-case **letters** correctly – *starting and finishing in the right place, going the right way round, correctly oriented.*  Form digits 0-9 correctly.   * Practise forming letters in handwriting families: * ‘Long ladders’ – i, j, l, t, u, * ‘One armed robots’ – b, h, m, n p, r * ‘Curly caterpillars’ – c, a, d, e, g, o, q, f, s * Zig-zag letters – k, v, w, x, y, z   Have clear ascenders *(‘tall* ***letters’****)* and descenders *( ‘tails’ ).*  Form **capital** **letters** correctly. | As previous and:  Form lower-case **letters** of the correct size relative to one another.  Orientate **capital letters** correctly.  Use **capital letters** appropriately e.g. *not always writing A as a capital, not using capitals within words.*  Write **capital letters** and digits of the correct size relative to one another and to lower case **letters**.  Start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join **letters** and understand which **letters**, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined.  Use spacing between **words** which reflects the size of the **letters**. | As previous and:  Form and use the four basic handwriting joins.  Write legibly. | As previous and:  Use a joined style throughout their independent writing.  Write with consistency in size and proportion of letters, e.g. *by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch.* | As previous and:  Write fluently using a joined style as appropriate for independent writing.  Choose when it is appropriate to print ( lower case or upper case) rather than to join writing e.g. *printing for labelling a scientific diagram or data, filling in a form, writing an e mail address.* | As previous and:  Write, using a joined style, with increasing speed.  Choose the writing implement that is best suited for a task e.g. *pencil for* *quick notes, handwriting pen for letters, marker pens for posters*. |