

# Handwriting at Kingshill



## Overview of Handwriting from The National Curriculum:

*Handwriting is an essential skill that supports the transcription and spelling element of the National Curriculum for English. When teaching handwriting, it is important that good posture and an appropriate pencil grip are encouraged. Seating for left-handed pupils also needs to be considered to allow them to write without banging into the elbows of other children.*

*In the **Early Years Foundation Stage**, letter formation is taught starting with print. Cursive script is introduced for some children later in the reception year when they are showing the required level of fine motor skills.*

*In **Year 1**, children are introduced to cursive letter formation and are expected to form capital letters and digits that are the right size and orientated correctly. Letters should also be the correct size in relationship to one another.*

*In **Year 2**, children begin to join and are introduced to diagonal and horizontal strokes to help them join some letters. Their writing should also use spaces between the words that reflect the size of their letters. In order to meet the expected standard for the end of Key Stage 1, children must meet these expectations.*

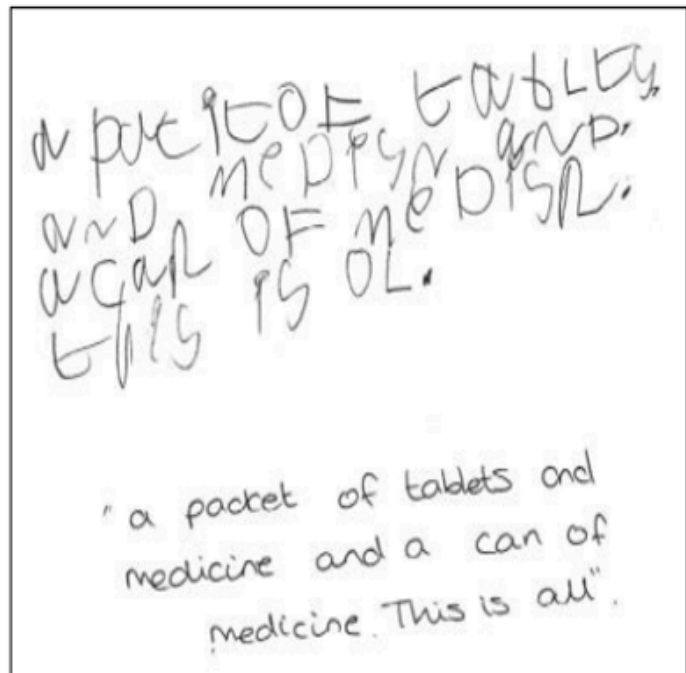
**EYFS Statutory Framework:**

**Physical Development:** Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.

**ELG 04: Moving and Handling: Expected Level:** They handle equipment and tools effectively, including pencils for writing.

**ELG 10: Writing: Expected Level:** They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others.

**Handwriting at the end of Reception should look like this:**



The end of year expectation for reception children is that they can hold a pencil effectively using a pincer grip to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed. This is a strong example of this as it is legible and demonstrates good pencil and letter size control.

Most letters are formed correctly but there are inconsistencies with the descender letters that should sit on the line with the tail below the line. Most children will be printing their letters in the EYFS.

## Statutory requirements

### Handwriting

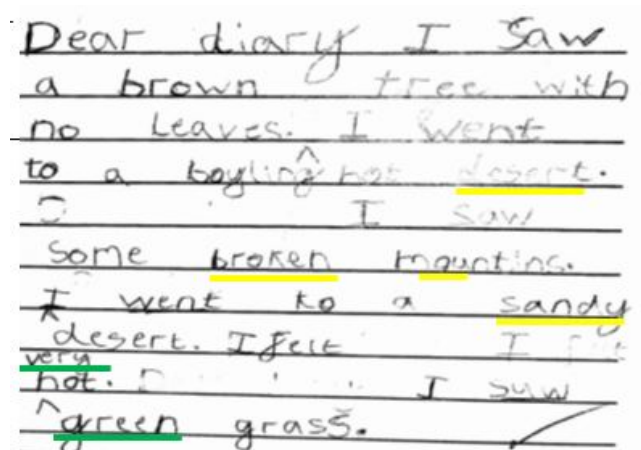
Pupils should be taught to:

- sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place
- form capital letters
- form digits 0-9
- understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

### On LetterJoin teach daily throughout the year:

- Easy letters and then apply the letter in a word in the Easy Words section or make one in the Word Animator.
- Harder letter and then apply the letter in a word in the Harder Words section or make one in the Word Animator.
- Practice numbers up to 10 and capital letters

Handwriting at the end of the year will look like:



This is a good example of Year 1 handwriting as all the letters are formed using the correct orientation. Capital letters are formed correctly and there are clear finger spaces between the words.

## Year 2 Handwriting:

### Statutory requirements

#### Handwriting

Pupils should be taught to:

- form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another
- 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
- write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.

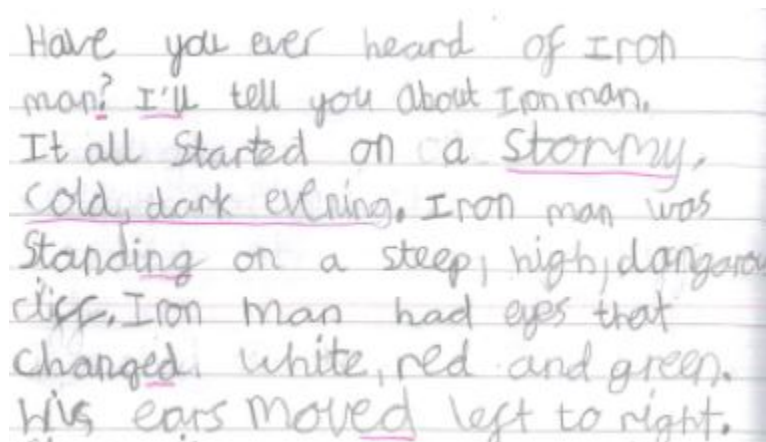
#### Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Pupils should revise and practise correct letter formation frequently. They should be taught to write with a joined style as soon as they can form letters securely with the correct orientation.

### LetterJoin font setting- Letter Join No Lead (but joined)

#### On LetterJoin teach daily throughout the year:

- Easy letters and then apply the letter in a word in the Easy Words section or make one in the Word Animator.
- Harder letter and then apply the letter in a word in the Harder Words section or make one in the Word Animator.
- Practice numbers up to 10 and capital letters in one lesson per week.



In this example, we can see how the child has developed from Year 1. They are beginning to join some letters to help their writing flow. At this stage, letter sizing may be inconsistent as

the child begins to learn to join. Children in Year 2 need to produce handwriting of this standard in order to meet the Key Stage One expected standard in writing. Loops on the letters 'f' and 'g' are clearly discernible.

**Practice handwriting using LetterJoin at Home!**

<https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/work-sheets.html>