



HANDWRITING AT HOLBROOK

At Holbrook, we have high presentation expectations. Children have discrete handwriting sessions in EYFS and KS1. All year groups have regular, short burst handwriting sessions as part of their English lessons. Children are expected to sit properly and hold their pen/pencil using a tri grip. In September 2023, we adopted a new approach to handwriting at our school called 'Achieving Excellence in Handwriting' written by Martin Harvey and Debbie Watson.

Here is a guide to our approach to handwriting:

READY TO WRITE:

- BBC – Bottom to the Back of the Chair
- TNT – Tummy Near the Table
- Six Legs, 2 hands – 4 chair legs + 2 feet, 1 hand to hold the pencil and 1 hand to hold the paper
- Pinchy Parrot – three-point pencil grip
- Put your pencil to bed zzz...

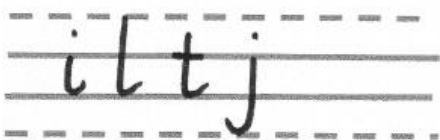
LESSON STRUCTURE:

- Start each lesson with a series of tall, short, tail lines etc to warm up – use this time to check pencil grip
- Teacher models – all eyes on the teacher
- Your turn – have a go at 3, put a • under your best attempt!
- Teacher check – any advice?
- Have a second go, trying to recreate or improve on your best one so far

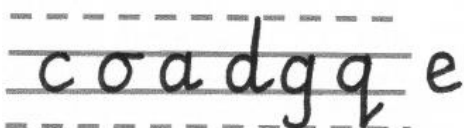
LETTER FAMILIES:

Formation of lower letters is taught with letters grouped together in families:

Family 1 – The Straight Line Family



Family 2 – The Coathanger Family



Family 3 – The Bridge Family

n m r h b k p

Family 4 – The Zigzag Family

v w

Family 5 – The Smile Family

u y

Family 6 – The Misfits!

s f x z

LANGUAGE:

- Small
- Tall
- Tail
- Bridges
- Triangles
- Egg Shape
- Shoe Lace K
- Diagonal Joining Stroke

UPPERCASE LETTERS:

Uppercase letters are taught as tall letters which do not join to the letter which follows.