

Module Eleven: Part 2

b) Handwriting

To understand the role played by handwriting as the *third core skill* and part of appropriate multi-sensory provision

To understand the *sub*-skills for handwriting – their roles and progression – and how to provide for right-handers and left-handers

Module Eleven: Part 2 continued

b) Handwriting

Survey: To be aware of how pupils write by hand when they have been left largely to their own devices – including the possible consequences of excessive mini whiteboard use

Module Eleven: Part 2 continued

b) Handwriting

To consider the pros and cons of different handwriting styles (including joined handwriting) and different teaching approaches

To consider the options for teaching handwriting in bilingual or multilingual scenarios when the handwriting styles of the various countries differ

HANDWRITING

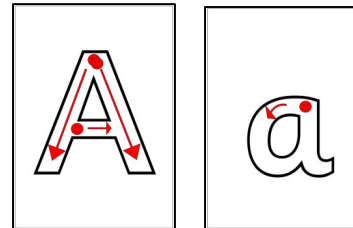
Handwriting is the third
CORE skill and part of an
appropriate multi-sensory
approach

Sub-skills for handwriting

- Air-writing (interactive, engaging, directional)
- Tracing (finger or pencil)
- Learning to hold a pencil (correctly)

For 3 to 4 year olds, do arty things for both capital and lower case letters

- Teeny Reading Seeds provides hollow letters



Air-writing

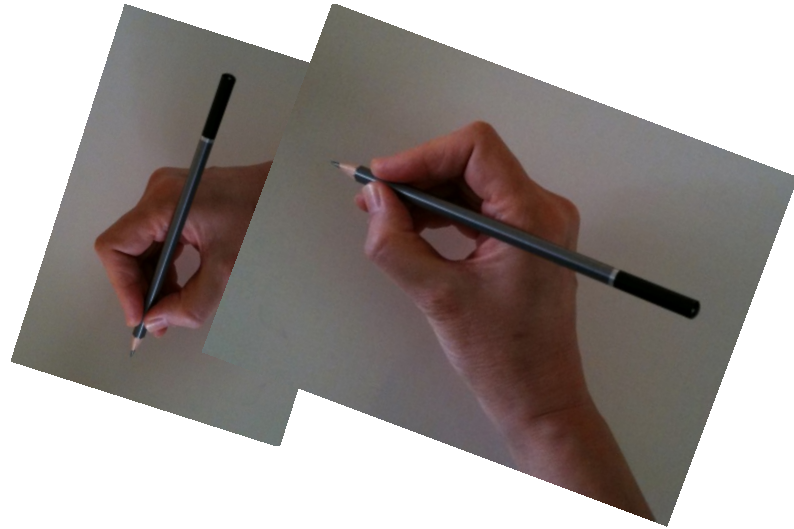


- Face the same way as the children
- Avoid facing them and avoid writing 'in reverse'
- Children do not necessarily 'see' or 'perceive' a letter shape in the air, they may just note the physical movement
- Note the difference in movement between writing letter **j** in reverse and the correct orientation

School Survey

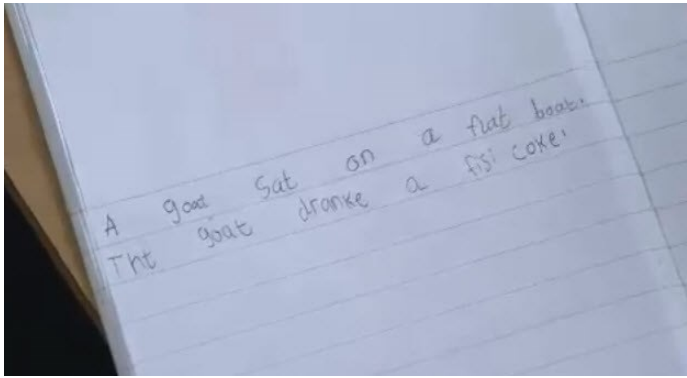
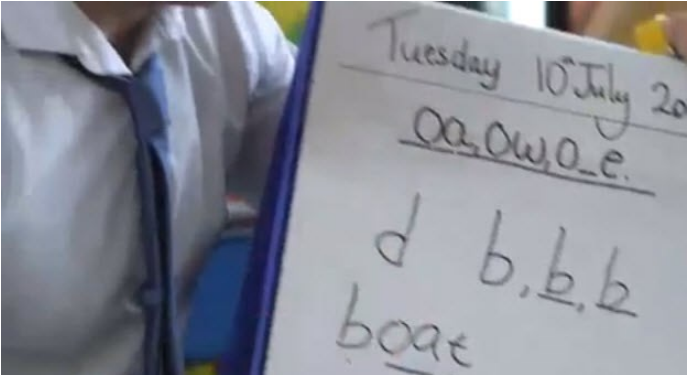
Observe:

- Are children 'hooking' their writing hands around?
- Are they writing from 'above' their words instead of from 'below'?
- Are they slanting the paper to be comfortable?
- Are they sitting with good posture at appropriate height desks?
- Are they holding their paper/books steady with their spare hands?

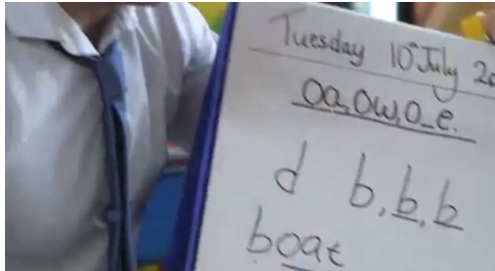


- Are they holding their pencils correctly?
- Are the adults holding their pencils/pens correctly in front of the children?

What do you notice?



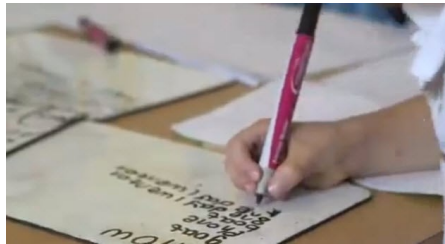
What do you notice?



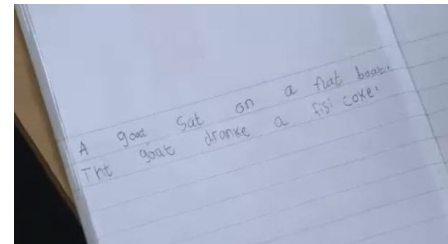
**Y1 teacher's handwriting is very poor
Ofsted said this school is 'outstanding'**



Desk is far too high - one boy has to hook his wrist - the other lifts his shoulder



**Child's whiteboard is at right angle
Child writes from bottom to top**



Child uses writing lines like 'barriers' – writing in between

Be mindful of the minutiae

- At all times when you are teaching, focus on the **details** of everything and **take great care**
- **Train** your learner, or learners, **really well** – your focus on the details of every aspect of teaching and learning **will soon pay off**
- Being mindful of the details means that you must **allow TIME** for **high-quality** teaching and learning – your example of care and precision **will be followed** by **ALL** your pupils

Fit-for-purpose writing activities?



Mini whiteboards
Sitting cross-legged



Lying on the floor

When might mini whiteboards be fit-for-purpose?

When might lying on the floor be fit-for-purpose?

When might these practices not be fit-for-purpose?

Ofsted Report

‘Ready to read? How a sample of primary schools in Stoke-on-Trent teach pupils to read’

Page 4: (‘Findings’) *‘In almost all of the schools visited, the teachers observed did not teach children to form the letters correctly when they taught the sounds.’*

Page 6: (‘Recommendations’) *‘Ensure that the correct letter formation is taught at the same time as the letter-sound and that pupils are taught to sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly.’*

HANDWRITING PRACTICE:



Write all the upper case (capital) and lower case letter shapes of the alphabet with the correct **tripod pencil hold**.



Provide plenty of practice on simple writing lines for the **positional** value of letters on lines.

Remember, capital letters are the **SAME CODE AS** lower case letters – ‘**say the sounds**’ when writing:

To write ch **say** /ch/ - **not** /k/ /h/

Teaching new code as required:

You're teaching ch as code for the /ch/ sound:



Charlotte is in your class, what can you do?

“In *your* special name, *those* letters **are code** **for** the /sh/ sound. Let's look at the /sh/ spellings on our Alphabetic Code Chart.


When you write those letters, you can say /ch/ or sometimes /sh/.”

Incidental phonics teaching for teenies:

Josh

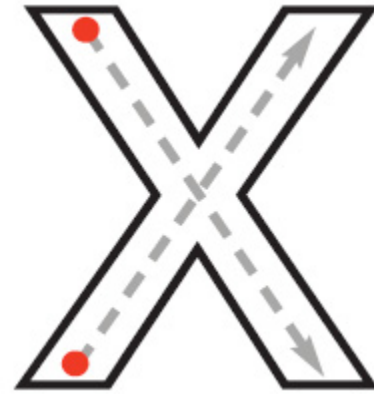
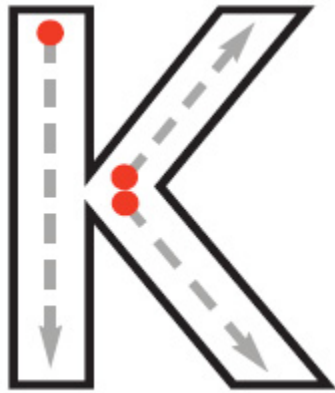


Charlotte

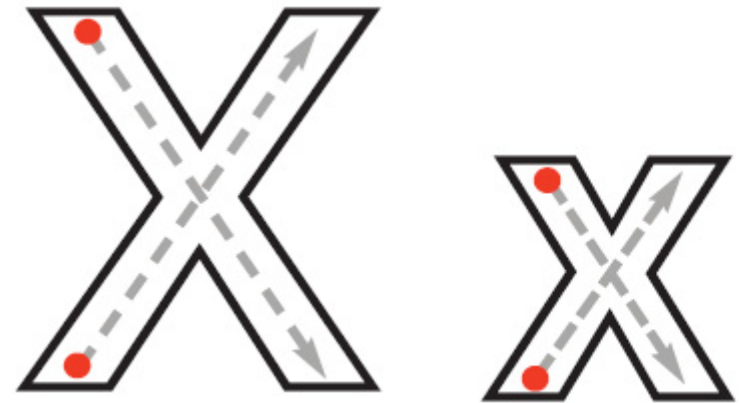
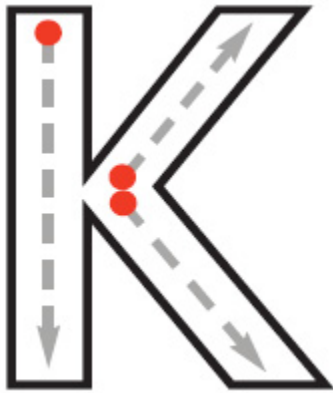


“In *your* names, *these* letters
are code for the /sh/ sound.”

Poster available at www.phonicsinternationalpreschool.com



What is the reasoning for these starting points and directionality?



It's easier to draw lines from a **middle point** on an existing line.

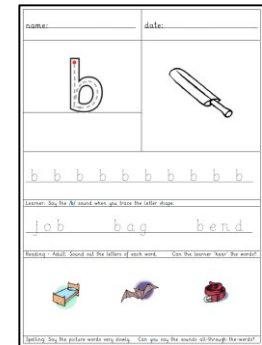
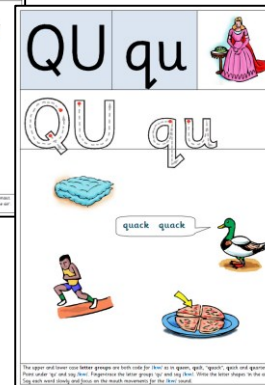
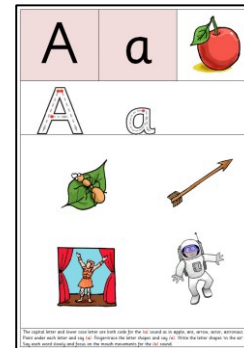
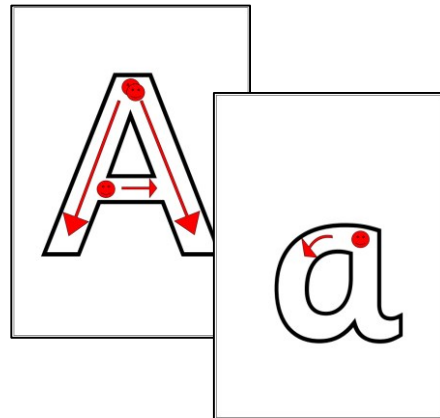
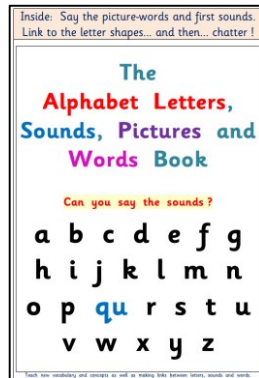
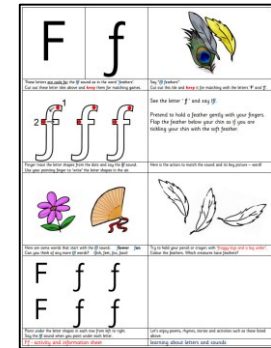
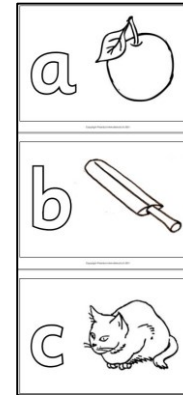
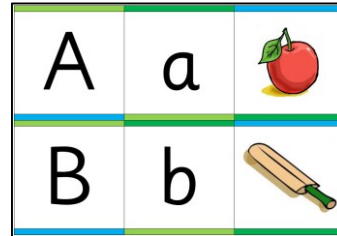
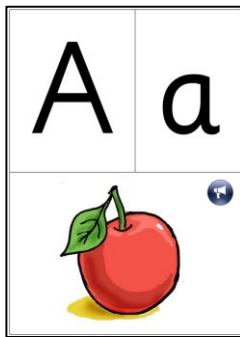
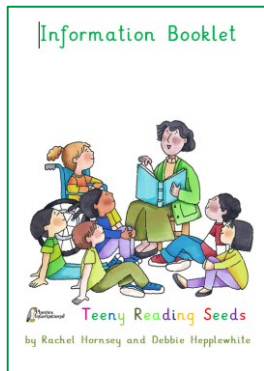
The second 'up' stroke **prepares** for later joined handwriting.

Print or joined handwriting?

- Teach four and five year olds how to **print** (including on lines) with **no joins or leaders**
- Teach a **fully joined style**, with leaders, when phonics understanding and print writing is **firmly embedded** – perhaps at 6 or 7 (**Y2**)
- Teach how to hold an ordinary-sized pencil with the **tripod hold**

Handwriting support

Teeny Reading Seeds



Handwriting support

Debbie Hepplewhite's Handwriting Site

Home About Contact

Welcome to my website dedicated to the teaching of handwriting.

This writing is in my print font designed for infants and beginners. Click on the Free Alphabet and Handwriting Resources button for the teaching suggestions.

This is my font designed especially for teaching joined handwriting for all ages from six years and. The video clip offers suggestions for teaching this style. Guidance is provided via the Free Alphabet and Handwriting Resources page.

Free Alphabet and Handwriting Resources

Debbie's Handwriting Resources in Blog

Alphabet Posters to Buy

Other Resources to Buy

Phonics International for Pre-School

Phonics International Website

Debbie's Alphabet Code Chart Website

Copyright 2012 Phonics International Ltd and Joined Up Resources Ltd

Handwriting 1

Name _____ Date _____ Class _____

sharp pencil good posture
right grip write beneath

A a	B b	C c	D d	E e	F f
G g	H h	I i	J j	K k	L l
M m	N n	O o	P p	Q q	R r
S s	T t	U u	V v	W w	X x
Y y	Z z	Debbie Hepplewhite's print and fully joined handwriting fonts			

Think carefully about the how the letter shapes are joined...

- There are **two main joins**
 - 1) a diagonal join to half height**
 - 2) a washing line join**
- With letter **w**, the **diagonal join** has to **curve round** to form the **u**. (and) **loops** and the **washing line join** has to **slip down** to form the **u**. (and)
- When a letter that ends with a **washing line join** (**a, n, m, w**) is followed by a letter in the **o** group (**c, o, d, k, g, q, i**) a **lead over** is added to the **washing line join** to reach the starting point of the next letter (**ack, rug, man, want, arm**).

booklets or pdf available

Cursive Writing
Handwriting fonts for UK schools
www.cursivewriting.org

School Orders Joined Cursive Fonts Joined Precursive Fonts Debbie Hepplewhite Handwriting

Debbie Hepplewhite Handwriting Teaching Fonts

This font pack will enable you to create your own resources to support Debbie Hepplewhite's method for teaching fully joined handwriting. Please contact Debbie direct if you require bespoke training for handwriting in your school. You can find out more by visiting [Debbie Hepplewhite's Handwriting Site](http://www.debbiehepplewhite.com).

The image below shows you the five different styles of text you will be able to produce with this pack.

Debbie Hepplewhite Print Font:
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Debbie Hepplewhite Print Outline:
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Debbie Hepplewhite Teaching Font:
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Debbie Hepplewhite Outline:
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Debbie Hepplewhite Joins Toolbar:
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Click [here](#) to download a PDF sample showing capitals, numerals etc. All of the fonts include a full set of punctuation marks, capitals, numerals and many accented characters.

Jenell Williams:
I am delighted with the font...I have been searching for two years to find one I liked that was affordable and was thrilled to find that I could have it in so many styles...
[read more testimonials](#)

software available

www.debbiehepplewhitehandwriting.com

Handwriting support

Suggested 'patter' for the Debbie Hepplewhite method of teaching fully joined handwriting

- Establish from the outset that there are **two main joins**:
 - 1) a "diagonal join to half height" (approximately the mid-point of the gap between reasonably spaced writing lines in an ordinary exercise book);
 - 2) a "washing line join".
- With letter **a**, the diagonal join has to **sweep round** to form the **u** (egg) and the washing line join has to **dip down** to form the **e** (are).
- When a letter that ends with a washing line join (a, e, r, m, n, w) is followed by a letter in the c group (c, a, d, s, g, o, q) a **hook over** is added to the washing line join to reach the starting point of the next letter (ack, maq, man, nunk, exam).

Letters	Patter
c	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and round
a	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and round, catch the hook, (straighten up), straight down, flick...
d	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and round, catch the hook, straight up, straight down, flick...
s	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and curl around (like a snake), flick...
g	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and round, catch the hook, (straighten up), straight down through the line, loop at the bottom, up with a parallel line, stop at the writing line, diagonal join to half height, down to form the bowl for the 'u', down and flick...
o	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and round, catch the hook, washing line join...
qu	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, hook over, back and round, catch the hook, (straighten up), straight down through the line, loop at the bottom, up with a parallel line, stop at the writing line, diagonal join to half height, down to form the bowl for the 'u', down and flick...
f	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, straight up then hook over, back and straight down through the line, then loop ready to join the next letter.
l	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, straight up, straight down, flick...
t	Start on the line, diagonal join to half height, straight up, straight down, flick... then cross the 't' from left to right above the join (after the whole word is written)

The 'c' letters

diagonal join, hook over, back and round...
(catch the hook...)

Aa a	Bb b
Cc c	Dd d

The Alphabet Letters

The Alphabet

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg
Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn
Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu
Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

The Alphabet

Patter for print & joined
Resources for print & joined
 with or without pictures
Video guidance

Free to download