

Penpals for Handwriting: Year 1 information sheet for parents

Letter formation should now be becoming familiar and secure.

As a reminder, correct letter formation for lower case letters is as follows:

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

Capital letters are formed as follows:

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

During this school year, children will begin to join some pairs of letters within a word.

They will be introduced to two main join types:

- Joins from the baseline, known as **diagonal joins**.

Letters which can come before diagonal joins: a, c, d, e, h, i, k, l, m, n, t, u.

diagonal join to short letter	diagonal join to an ascender	diagonal join to an anticlockwise letter
e.g. <i>am, un</i> <i>jam, fun</i>	e.g. <i>at, th, ck</i> <i>bat, with, duck</i>	e.g. <i>ag, nd, if</i> <i>bag, bend, if</i>

- Joins from the top of the letter or the cross bar, known as **horizontal joins**.

Letters which can come before horizontal joins: O, V, W.

horizontal join to a short letter	horizontal join to an ascender	horizontal join to an anticlockwise letter
e.g. <i>on, wi</i> <i>pond, with</i>	e.g. <i>ot, oll, wh</i> <i>dot, doll, when</i>	e.g. <i>og, oc, oo</i> <i>frog, clock, look</i>

Letters which are not joined from at this stage are known as **break letters** and include: b, f, g, j, p, q, r, s, x, y, z.