

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. am, un jam, fun	e.g. at, th, ck bat, with, duck	e.g. ag, nd, if bag, bend, if

- 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. on, wi pond, with	e.g. ot, oll, wh dot, doll, when	e.g. og, oc, oo frog, clock, look

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.