



Year Group/Age	Expectation
Nursery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit in the correct position and hold a pencil correctly to allow fluid movement of the nib. • Improve fine and gross motor skills by enjoying drawing pre-cursive patterns in a variety of writing materials. • Understand the language needed to describe pencil movements • Focus on patterns which build on the three basic letter shapes. • Form letters confidently without lead ins and lead outs • Write their own name confidently.
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a pencil in an effective manner for writing. • Understand that letters are written on a base line and that all cursive letters ‘start on the line’ and ‘end with a hook’. • Begin to form some recognisable joined-up cursive letters, capital letters and numerals. • Understanding different shaped letter families. • Leave the correct space between words.
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write legibly using upper and lower case letters with some letters joins. • All individual letters have a lead-in and a lead-out stroke • Ensure that letters sit on the base line. • Form capital letters and use where appropriate and understand that they do not join to lower case letters. • Form numerals that are consistent in size and sit on the base line. • Begin to form printed letters and understand when they are to be used.
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that letters are consistent in size with ascenders and descenders that are the correct length and formation. • Write legibly using upper and lower case letters with confident letters joins. • Improve the speed of writing and begin to write automatically so promoting creativity in independent writing. • Form printed letters and understand when to use printed or cursive.
Lower Key Stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Quality:</i> Ensure letters are consistently sized with equal word spacing and that ascenders and descenders are parallel and do not touch words on the lines above and below. • <i>Speed:</i> Improve speed of handwriting to allow creative writing to take precedence over the task of handwriting and be able to take ‘quick notes’ at a faster pace. • <i>Stamina:</i> Have the strength and mobility to be able to write for longer periods of time without fatigue.
Upper Key stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have full knowledge and ability of the different forms of handwriting for different purposes: • Neat, joined, cursive letters for writing passages and large amounts of text, lists and letters. • Printed or capital letters for posters, notices, headings, labelling, and form filling. • Speedy handwriting for note-taking and dictation where neatness is not as important and shortcuts, such as + instead of ‘and’, can be used.