



Cookham Rise Handwriting Guide for Parents

Letter formation

Letters are taught in the following groups:

Straight letters

Pencil starts at the top and descends.

i l t u

2 o'clock letters

Pencil starts at 2 o'clock position and takes an anticlockwise turn.

c a d g q s

Tunnel letters

Pencil starts at the top, descends and goes back up the line.

n m h b p

Top joiners

These letters are grouped together because (when children start to join up) they all lead into the next letter from the top of the letter.

o r v w

Square letters

Pencil starts at the top. X – pencil is taken off the page to cross.

x z

Odd letters

These five letters do not follow a pattern.

f k j y e

Individual letters are taught using the following sayings which are accompanied by pictures:

Sound	Saying	Picture
m	Down Maisie, mountain, mountain and flick.	Mountain
a	Round the apple, down the leaf and flick.	Apple
s	Slither around the snake and flick.	Snake
d	Round the dinosaur's back, up his neck, down his feet and flick.	Dinosaur
t	Down the tower and flick, then across the tower.	Tower

Sound	Saying	Picture
i	Down the insect's body, flick and a dot for the head.	Insect
n	Down Nobby, up over his net and flick.	Net
p	Down the pirate's plait, up and over his face and flick.	Pirate
g	Round the girl's face, down her hair and give her a curl.	Girl
o	All around the orange and flick.	Orange

Sound	Saying	Picture
c	Curl around the caterpillar and flick.	Caterpillar
k	Down the kangaroo's body, pen off, kick in, kick out and flick.	Kangaroo
u	Down and under the umbrella, up to the top and down to the puddle and flick.	Umbrella
b	Down the laces, up over the toe, touch the heel and flick.	Boot

Sound	Saying	Picture
f	Down the stem, pen off, and draw the leaves.	Flower
e	Slice into the egg, for over the top, then under the egg and flick.	Egg
l	Down the long leg and flick.	Leg
h	Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back and flick.	Horse
sh	Slither around the snake and flick. Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back and flick.	No picture

Sound	Saying	Picture
r	Down the robot's back, then curl over his arm and flick.	Robot
j	Down the jack-in-the-box's body, curl and dot.	Jack-in-the-box
v	Down a wing, up a wing and flick.	Vulture
y	Down a horn, up a horn and under his head.	Yak
w	Down, up, down, up and flick.	Worm

Sound	Saying	Picture
th	Down the tower and flick, then across the tower. Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back and flick.	No picture
z	Zig-zag-zig and flick.	Zip
ch	Curl around the caterpillar and flick. Down the horse's head to the hooves, over his back and flick.	No picture
q	Round the queen's head, up past her earrings and down her hair and flick.	Queen
x	Down the arm and leg and repeat the other side.	Exercise
ng	Down Nobby, up over his net and flick. Round the girl's face, down her hair and give her a curl.	No picture
nk	Down Nobby, up over his net and flick. Down the kangaroo's body, pen off, kick in, kick out and flick.	No picture