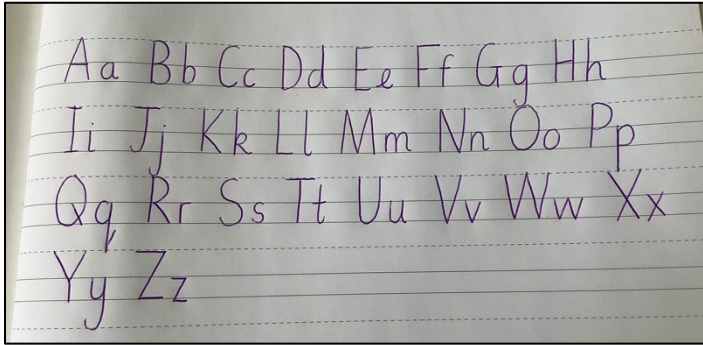


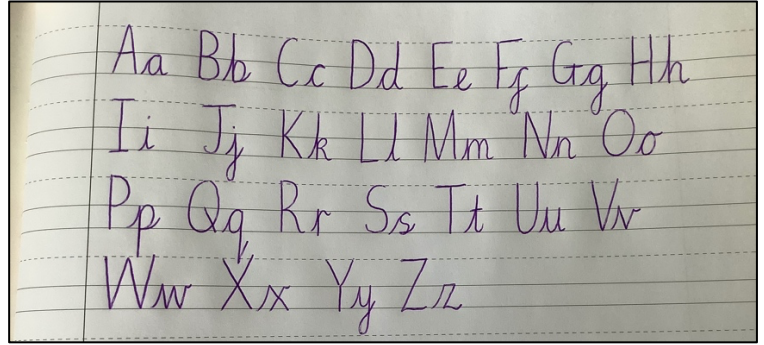


How we teach handwriting in Year 1 and Year 2

In each of the pupils' writing books, the lines look like this.



Year 1 Expectation – 'print'



Year 2 Expectation – 'pre-cursive'

The dashed line is to help with the **ascenders** and **descenders** that touch the top and bottom. The solid line is to help with **half ladder** letters, like a lowercase **o**. These extra guidelines help children to understand the sizing of letters and where they sit.

Print

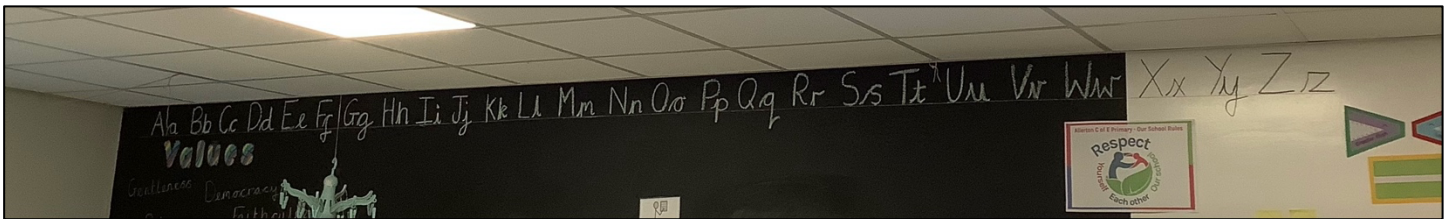
Print is lettering that has no joins. It is the letters formed at their simplest.

Pre-cursive

Pre-cursive is letters with the joins **in** and **out** but they do not join together yet. At the end of the year, some pupils may start to join the lettering to make **cursive** letters.

Handwriting is taught daily in this format:

- 1) The teacher models the focus letter(s).
- 2) Children have the opportunity to practise.
- 3) They receive 1:1 feedback.



Y2 classroom with handwriting expectations clearly visible

At home, it would be helpful to practise letters in these ways, depending on your year group. You could do this through:

- writing them LARGE on big paper
- writing them in sand
- practising in the sky/ in the air
- practising using fancy pens!
- write it in slime
- paint it onto walls with a paint brush dipped in water
- use chalk on the pavement
- use sticks in mud
- practise it on someone's back (guess the letter)

If you would like to read more about handwriting in our school and the general writing policy, the links are below:

[Handwriting Policy](#) and [Writing Policy](#)