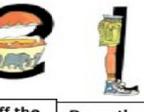
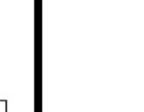


Handwriting at Coalway Infant School

In Classes One and Two

Children will learn how to form letters correctly, with clear difference between letter height and the correct formation and orientation. We practice our gross and fine motor skills, co-ordination, balance and core strength and we work on handwriting patterns and movements in our dance sessions called 'Write Dance'. When learning the formation of letters we use the rhymes from Ruth Misikin's 'Read, Write, Inc.' scheme. (See below.)

								
Maisey mountain mountain	Around the apple, down the leaf	Slither down the snake	Round his bottom, up his tall neck and down to his feet	Down the tower, across the tower	Down the body, dot for the head	Down Nobby and over his net	Down the platt and over the pirate's face	Round her face, down her hair and give her a curl
								
All around the orange	Curl around the caterpillar	Down the kangaroos body, tail and leg	Down and under, up to the top and draw a puddle	Down the laces, to heel, round the toe	Down the stem and draw the leaves	Lift off the top and scoop out the egg	Down the long leg	Down the head, to the hooves and over his back
								My RWI Sound Mat
Down his back, then curl over his arm	Down the body, curl and dot	Down a wing, up a wing	Down a horn, up a horn and under his head	Down up, down up	Zig-zag-zig	Round her head, up past her earrings and down her hair	Down the arm and leg, repeat the other side	

This shows exactly how we form our letters in Classes One and Two and where each letter begins.



Then, we concentrate on the 'letter families' so that the children can see the similarities between how some letters are formed.

Letter families

For teaching letter formation

Letter family 1
Down and off in another direction

l i t j u y

Letter family 2
Down and retrace upwards

m n r b p h k

Letter family 3
Anticlockwise round

c a d o q g e f s

Letter family 4
Zig-zag letters

v w x z

Classes Three and Four

We continue to learn about the letter families and ensure that we are forming them correctly. When we are ready we begin to learn about cursive (joined) letters and introduce this to the children by learning how to join our digraphs in our phonics lessons.

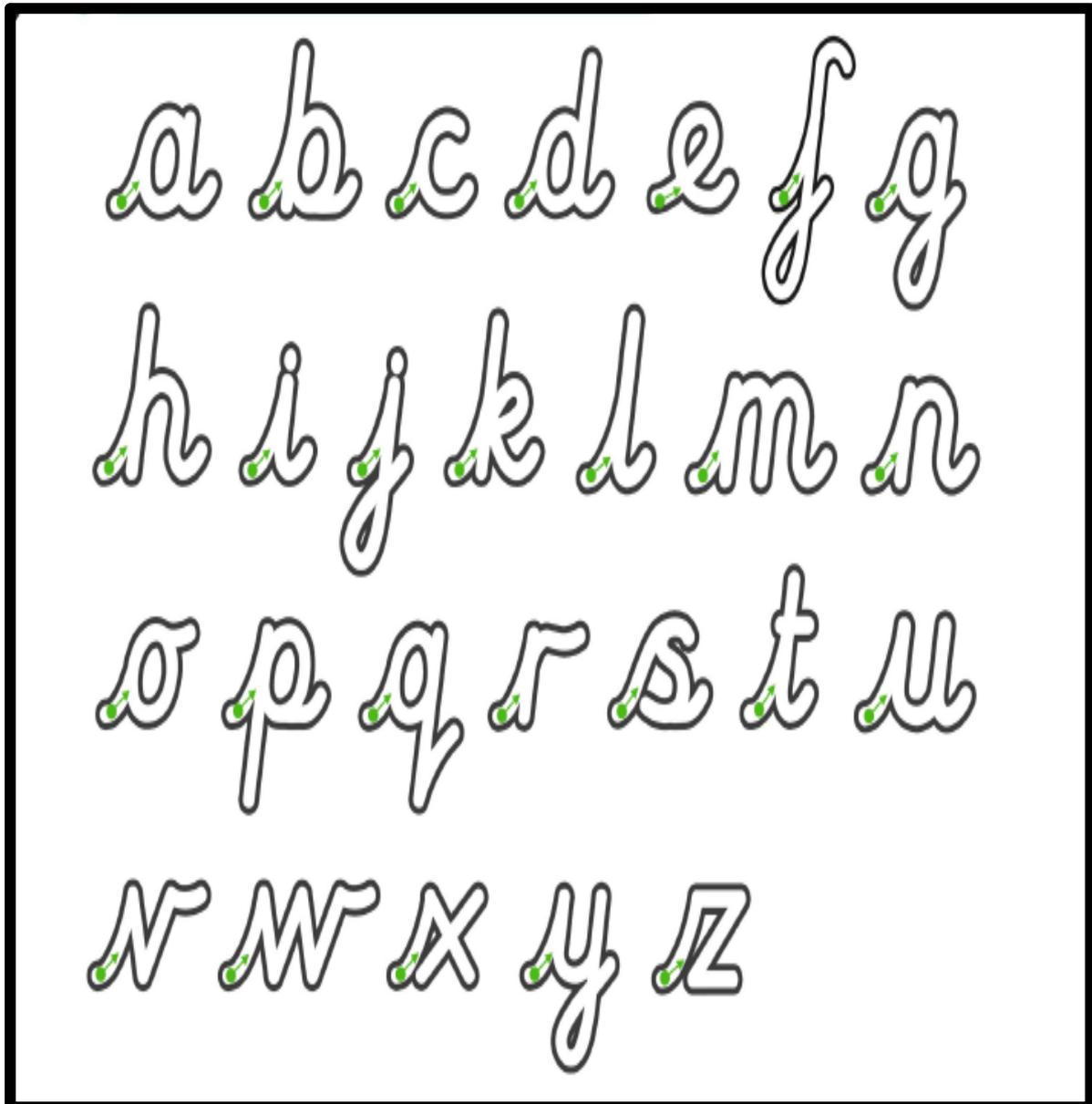
Phase 3 Sound Mat

Phase 5 Sound Mat

Next, we learn about the 'lead in' and 'lead outs' of letters.



Classes Five and Six

In terms One and Two, we continue to work on the letter families, joined digraphs and 'lead ins' and 'lead outs' of letters. By Terms Three and Four the children are encouraged to join letters all the time, in all pieces of work (not just when we are concentrating on handwriting). Finally we also learn about the letters we don't wish to join eg. capitals.