

## St Matthew's Curriculum Overview: Handwriting 2026-27

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
<b>R</b> Handwriting Explicit daily handwriting lessons  (ELG 06 Gross Motor & ELG 07 Fine Motor)	<p><b>Gross &amp; Fine Motor Skill Focus:</b> Continue to develop physical readiness and interest in writing</p> <p>Correct seated position, hand strength and dexterity exercises, pre writing exercises, correct pencil grasp and finger strength</p> <p>Baseline for external children</p> <p><b>Pre-writing patterns:</b> circles/spirals, lines/diagonals, zigzags/jellies, loopies/waves</p> <p>During Read Write Inc lessons, children will be exposed to letter formation and will have opportunities to form and practice correct letter formation throughout the year beginning in the first term. The Read Write Inc scheme will be consistently followed.</p>	<p><b>Forming Letters</b></p> <p>Forming letters using letter families Long Ladder Curly Caterpillar One-armed Robots Zig Zag</p> <p>Expectation that letters are to be sat on the line and beginning to use ascenders and descenders</p> <p><b>Forming Numbers</b> Forming numbers 0-9</p>	<p><b>Forming Letters</b></p> <p>Forming letters using letter families Long Ladder Curly Caterpillar One-armed Robots Zig Zag</p> <p>Expectation that letters are to be sat on the line and beginning to use ascenders and descenders</p> <p><b>Forming Numbers</b> Forming numbers 0-9</p>	<p><b>Forming letters</b></p> <p>introduce capital letters consolidate previous learning of letter families (lower case)</p> <p>Expectation that letters are to be sat on the line and beginning to use ascenders and descenders</p> <p><b>Forming Numbers</b> Forming numbers 0-9</p> <p>Focus on size and accurate playing in maths square</p>	<p>Continue with capital letters and letter families with more of a focus on letter sizing and placement</p> <p><b>Forming Numbers</b> Forming numbers 0-9</p> <p>Focus on size and accurate playing in maths square</p>	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Letter formation:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week</p> <p>Long Ladder &amp; digits 0-9 Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 Long Ladder &amp; digits 0-9 Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9</p>	<p><b>Letter formation:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9</p> <p><b>Capital Letters:</b> <b>L, T, I, H, E, F</b> (straight lines, easier motor movements)</p> <p><b>A, M, N, V, W, X, Y, Z</b> (diagonal lines or symmetry)</p> <p><b>C, O, G, Q, S, U, D, B, P, R</b> (Introduce curved letters later)</p> <p><b>Review malformed letters and: J, K</b></p>	<p><b>Handwriting session:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including cvc words</p> <p>Long Ladder Digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.4</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.4</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.4</p> <p>Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.4</p> <p>Long Ladder &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p>	<p><b>Handwriting session:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including cvc words</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p> <p>Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p> <p>Long Ladder Digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p> <p>Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 RWI cvc 1.5</p>	<p><b>Handwriting session:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including cvc words</p> <p>Long Ladder Digits 0-9 RWI ccvc 1.6</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 RWI ccvc 1.6</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 RWI ccvc 1.6</p> <p>Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 RWI ccvc 1.6</p> <p>Long Ladder &amp; digits 0-9 RWI ccvc 1.6</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 RWI ccvc 1.6</p>	<p><b>Handwriting session:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including cvc words</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 Days of the week</p> <p>Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 Days of the week</p> <p>Long Ladder Digits 0-9 Days of the week</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar &amp; digits 0-9 Days of the week</p> <p>One-armed Robots &amp; digits 0-9 Days of the week</p> <p>Zig Zag &amp; digits 0-9 Days of the week</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Letter formation:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week</p> <p>Long Ladder Curly Caterpillar One-armed Robots Zig Zag</p> <p>Identify which letters need further practice in preparation for pre-cursive letter formation</p>	<p><b>Letter formation:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week</p> <p>Long Ladder <b>L, T, I, H, E, F</b> (straight lines, easier motor movements)</p> <p>Curly Caterpillar Curved letters: <b>C, O, G, Q, S</b></p> <p>One-armed Robots Diagonal lines or symmetry: <b>A, M, N</b> Curved letters: <b>U, D, B, P, R</b></p> <p>Zig Zag Diagonal lines or symmetry: <b>V, W, X, Y, Z, J, K</b></p> <p>Identify which letters need further practice in preparation for pre-cursive letter formation</p>	<p><b>Letter formation:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week</p> <p>Introduce pre-cursive letter formation.</p> <p>Pre-cursive Long Ladder Pre-cursive Curly Caterpillar Pre-cursive One-armed Robots Pre-cursive Zig Zag Pre-cursive Long Ladder Pre-cursive Curly Caterpillar</p>	<p><b>Handwriting session:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including introduction to cursive</p> <p>Pre-cursive One-armed Robots Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Zig Zag Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Long Ladder Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Curly Caterpillar Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive One-armed Robots Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Zig Zag Taught Common Exception Words</p>	<p><b>Handwriting session:</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including introduction to cursive</p> <p>Pre-cursive One-armed Robots Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Zig Zag Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Long Ladder Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Curly Caterpillar Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive One-armed Robots Taught Common Exception Words</p> <p>Pre-cursive Zig Zag Taught Common Exception Words</p>	<p><b>Handwriting session;</b> 10-15 minutes, 5 times a week including introduction to cursive</p> <p>Diagonal joins to ascenders: ai, al, ab, cl, di, il, ti</p> <p>Diagonal joins without ascenders: am, an, ar, as</p> <p>Horizontal joins to letters without ascenders: oo, og, od, on, or</p> <p>Horizontal joins to letters with ascenders: ol, ot, wh, oh</p> <p>Joins from letters with loops or tails (descenders): gh, yf, gz, fj</p> <p>Practicing joins in context: short high-frequency words: it, in, is, on, at, am, an, as.</p>

<b>3*</b>	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Consolidation of joins and the transition from pre-cursive to joined cursive. Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Consolidation of joins and the transition from pre-cursive to joined cursive. Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Consolidation of joins and the transition from pre-cursive to joined cursive. Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Consolidation of joins and the transition from pre-cursive to joined cursive. Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Consolidation of joins and the transition from pre-cursive to joined cursive. Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Consolidation of joins and the transition from pre-cursive to joined cursive. Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings
<b>4*</b>	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings
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<b>6*</b>	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings	<i>3x, 15 minute handwriting sessions a week for fluent handwriters. Daily for non-fluent.</i> Handwriting sessions based on previously taught spellings

***\*Handwriting interventions will take place daily for any children who cannot form letters legibly and easily.***

Gross & Fine Motor Skills Document is available to support:

- Identifying pupils who struggle with handwriting and/or are at risk of falling behind early on.
- Providing targeted support during handwriting lessons, including individual support and feedback.
- Monitoring pupils' progress in handwriting and taking action to support those who are not progressing in line with their peers.