

St Oswald's Handwriting Progression



Any targets in bold are key mastery targets which will impact on end of year outcomes.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Sit correctly at a table and hold a pencil correctly. Hold a pencil with an effective grip. Form digits 0-9 correctly. Form lower-case letters correctly – starting and finishing in the right place, going the right way round, correctly oriented. Practise patterns. Practise forming letters in handwriting families: ➤ 'Curly letters' – c, a, d, g, o, q, ➤ 'Long letters' – l, l, t, j, u, y ➤ 'Bouncy letters' – m, n, r, b, p, h, ➤ Zig-zag letters – v, w, x, y, z, k Have clear ascenders ('tall letters') and descenders ('tails').	As for previous year plus: Form upper and lower-case letters correctly – starting and finishing in the right place, going the right way round, correctly oriented. Practise forming letters in handwriting families: ➤ 'Curly letters' – c, a, d, g, o, q, ➤ 'Long letters' – l, l, t, j, u, y ➤ 'Bouncy letters' – m, n, r, b, p, h, ➤ Zig-zag letters – v, w, x, y, z, k Have clear ascenders ('tall letters') and descenders ('tails'). Form capital letters correctly. Words have clear spaces between them.	As for previous years plus: Use capital letters appropriately e.g. not always writing A as a capital, not using capitals within words. Write capital letters and digits of the correct size relative to one another and to lower case letters. Start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined. Use spacing between words which reflects the size of the letters.	As for previous year plus: Form and use the four basic handwriting joins: ➤ Horizontal ➤ Diagonal Write legibly.	As for previous year plus: Use a joined style throughout their independent writing. Write with consistency in size and proportion of letters, e.g. by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch.	As for previous year plus: Write fluently using a joined style as appropriate for independent writing. Choose when it is appropriate to print (lower case or upper case) rather than to join writing e.g. printing for labelling a scientific diagram or data, filling in a form, writing an e mail address.	As for previous year plus: Write, using a joined style, with increasing speed and fluency. Choose the writing implement that is best suited for a task e.g. <i>pencil for quick notes, handwriting pen for letters, marker pens for posters.</i>

Year Group	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Reception	Practise patterns Curly letter family	Long letter family Bouncy letter family Zig-zag family	Teach capital letters. Form digits 0-9	Teach capital letters Form digits 0-9	Digraphs and trigraphs Form digits 0-9	Digraphs and trigraphs Form digits 0-9
Year 1	Revisit lower- case formation Curly letter family Long letter family Form digits 0-9	Bouncy letters Zigzag letters Form digits 0-9	Teach curly letters and associated capital letters Long letters and associated capital letters	Teach Bouncy letters and associated capital letters. Zig-zag family and associated capital letters	Practise letters in digraphs, trigraphs and words.	Practise letters in digraphs, trigraphs and words.
Year 2	Review and mastery of all letter formation families Capital Letters	Begin diagonal joins Group 1 to Group 2		Begin diagonal joins Group 1 to Group 3	Begin horizontal joins Group 4 to Group 2	Begin horizontal joins Group 4 to Group 3
Year 3	Master diagonal joins Group 1 to Group 2		Master diagonal joins Group 1 to Group 3		Master horizontal joins Group 4 to Group 2	Master horizontal joins Group 4 to Group 3
Year 4	Review of horizontal joins Group 4 to Group 2 Group 4 to Group 3		Review of diagonal joins Group 1 to Group 2 Group 1 to Group 3		Ensure down strokes of letters are parallel and equidistant	Clear ascenders and descenders
Year 5	Review of horizontal joins Group 4 to Group 2 Group 4 to Group 3	Review of diagonal joins Group 1 to Group 2 Group 1 to Group 3	Ensure down strokes of letters are parallel and equidistant	Clear ascenders and descenders	Legibility and consistency in size	
Year 6	Write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed.		Choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether to join specific letters		Choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.	

Groupings for joining

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
a b c d e h i k l m n p s t u	a c d e g i j m n o p q r s u v w x y	b f h k l t	f o r v w