

Letter-join at home!

Dear Parents,

Our school is now part of the Letter-join handwriting scheme and our pupils can log in to the Letter-join website on iPads and tablets as well as desktop and laptop computers at home.

There you will find the same, easy-to-use handwriting resources that we use at school.



PC DESKTOP AND LAPTOP LOG-IN

Log in at **www.letterjoin.co.uk** and use the

Desktop log-in option with these details:

User name: wk9133

Password: home

PC Browsers:

Letter-join will work on the following browsers on PCs/Macs:

- Google Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari

Do not use Internet Explorer.

IPAD AND TABLET LOG-IN

Go to **www.letterjoin.co.uk** and use the Tablet log-in option with these details:

User name: wk9133

Swipe code (starting at top left):



Tablet/iPad Browsers:

Letter-join will run on the following tablets:

- iPads running iOS7 and above through the Safari browser.
- Windows 8 tablets (8 inch and bigger) using the built-in browser.
- Android tablets (8 inch and bigger) using Google Chrome, Firefox or Opera.

CHOOSING A CLASSROOM

Once logged-in, choose your child's classroom and you can use Letter-join's resources and fun activities to reinforce the handwriting we teach at school. You can trace over the letters and words and play the games on your tablet.

We are limited to the number of users who can log in to this account, so please do not share these log-in details.

Choose your class name or click 'Free Play'

Free Play	Year 1/2A	Year 5/6T
Reception S	Year 3/4S	Year 5/6A
Reception T	Year 3/4T	
Year 1/2S	Year 3/4A	
Year 1/2T	Year 5/6S	

Don't see your class? Ask your school to set your Class Name

Letter-join

Cursive Handwriting HOME USERS GUIDE



Log-in and get started
with Letter-join at home



Login:

From the Letter-join home page, choose Desktop or Tablet login.

Enter the username and swipecode (tablets) or password (PCs) issued to you at the time of purchase.



Google Chrome



Mozilla Firefox

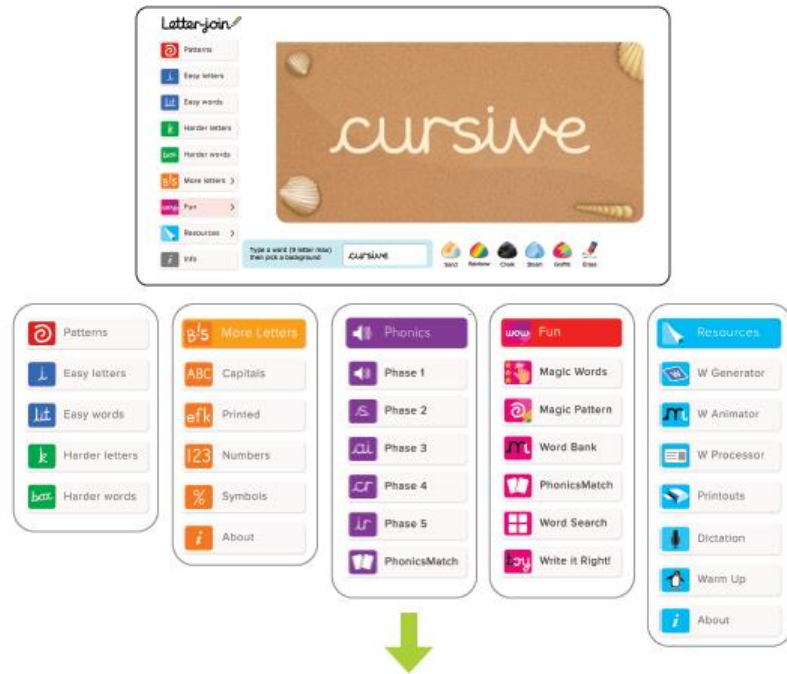


Apple Safari

Letter-join is an advanced Web site that is compatible with most Internet browsers on desktop computers as well as on iPads, Windows and Android tablets.

Internet Explorer and Microsoft Edge cannot display cursive fonts correctly and are not recommended for Letter-join.

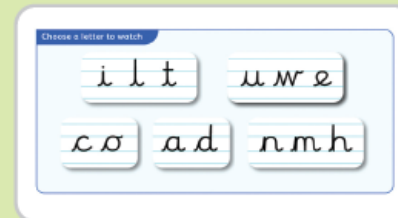
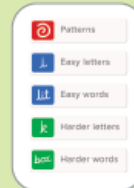
The Letter-join menu



Choosing letters and words to practise

Letter-join work flow for Patterns, Easy Letters, Easy words, Harder letters, Harder words.

Animations for individual letters include voiced instructions and link to an accompanying practice worksheet.



Choose a letter to watch



Animations with spoken instructions



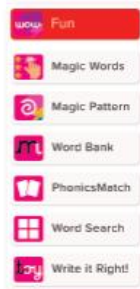
Touch-screen activities for IWBs, iPads and tablets



Practice worksheets accompany all sections

Early Years, Foundation Stage

Colourful, touch-screen handwriting activities.



Magic Patterns and Magic Words

Under the Fun tab you'll find activities designed to offer touch-screen tracing practice for pupils at home.

Magic Patterns can be used to trace Letter-join's pre-cursive patterns and other shapes in a choice of fun palettes. Magic Words allows any word to be typed onto the screen and then written over using a finger or a stylus for letter and word practice.

Write it Right!

A new, fun activity

Write it Right! selects groups of pictures with words (easy, medium and hard) for children to trace.



The activity has accompanying sounds and fun animations to encourage children to play and practice their letter shapes over again.



Magic Patterns



Magic Words



Write it Right!

Letter-join Phonics

Combine cursive handwriting with phonics in an easy and seamless way

Children can practise tracing the phonemes on whiteboards or tablets. Schools can choose between lead-in or no lead-in Letter-join fonts for the words which accompany the phonemes.



Develop writing skills with pre-cursive patterns



Pre-cursive patterns cover all writing shapes.



Watch patterns, such as jellies, with fun sounds.



Practice tracing patterns on IWBs or tablets.



Fun Worksheets are available for all the pattern sets for handwriting practice using pencils and crayons.



Letter-join provides a selection of fun pre-cursive patterns for EYFS pupils that cover all handwriting movements. These encourage fine and gross motor skills as a foundation to cursive handwriting.

Letter-join's pre-cursive patterns are grouped into logical sets of similar shapes, and each pattern is animated, accompanied by exciting sounds.

Patterns can be watched on a PC or tablet and children can follow the shapes by 'air writing'

Finer control can be gained by finger writing on tablets or with a pencil using the worksheets. Worksheets consist of lines of patterns for tracing using a pencil or crayon and a simple drawing which can be 'coloured-in' using the patterns of that group.

Key Stage 1

At home, Letter-join is the perfect handwriting companion for KS1 children with easy access to the same resources as school.

With gentle encouragement children will be aiming to produce neat handwriting with consistent spacing and letter sizes.

Practicing handwriting exercises both on tablets and with pencils on worksheets can be fun with real improvements achieved surprisingly quickly.

The following KS1 pages cover a variety of Letter-join resources to achieve this including speedy 'on the go' iPad/tablet activities and a multitude of worksheets for real handwriting practice.

When using Letter-join at home parents can be sure that they are using the same letterforms and resources as chosen at school.



Lets try...
KS1 SPaG Revision

Letter-join offers a series of worksheets to support KS1 SATs which are not only great for improving handwriting, but are also perfect for the revision of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

There are 18 fun worksheets aimed to boost your children's confidence so they are SATs ready. These worksheets can be downloaded from Resources > Printouts > KS1.

KS1 is the time to introduce new characters; capital letters, numbers, printed letters, mathematical symbols and punctuation. Letter-join animates all of these to show the correct formation and provides ready-made worksheets.

Key Stage 2

Longer passages of text, written speedily and neatly, are the aims of KS2.

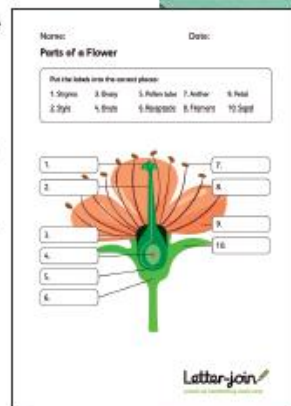
The Printouts tab in Letter-join's Resources section has many practice worksheets. They cover a selection of curriculum topics and are perfect for real handwriting practice at home.

Resources >



To build up handwriting speed and stamina children can use the Dictation Exercises which will help with learning to write longer passages of text.

Don't forget to practise Printed Letters by using the form-filling and labelling worksheets.



Why not try...

SATs WORKSHEETS

A series of worksheets to help with SATs revision as well as reinforcing cursive handwriting. Titles include Synonyms, Antonyms and Prepositions, all topics that will have been taught at school and all can be found in Resources > Printouts > KS2.

Printouts



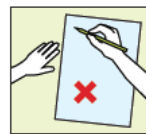
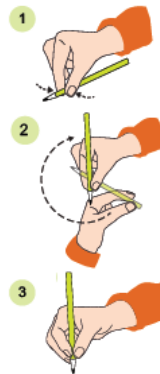
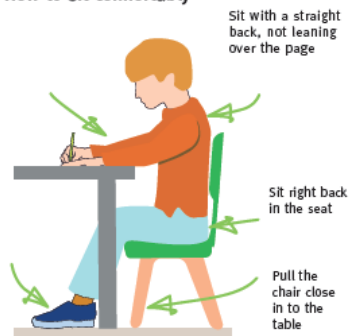
Antonyms

Antonyms are words with opposite meanings. Find and write antonyms for the following words.

tiny easy
bright hug
smooth

Pencil grip and seating

How to sit comfortably



Paper positioning for right-handed children.

How to hold a pencil correctly using the tripod pencil grip

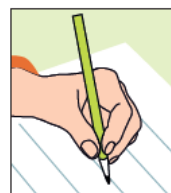
Both right and left handed children should be encouraged to use the tripod grip which allows the pen/pencil to be held securely whilst allowing controlled movements of the pen/pencil nib.

- 1 Grip the pencil with your index finger and thumb with the nib pointing away.
- 2 With your free hand, spin the pencil from underneath.
- 3 Use your middle finger to support the underside of the pencil.

Seating and handwriting positioning for left-handed children

Left-handed children may find it difficult to follow right-handed teachers as they demonstrate letter formation (and vice versa). Teachers should demonstrate to left-handers on an individual or group basis.

- Left-handed pupils should sit to the left of a right-handed child so that they are not competing for space.
- Pupils should position the paper/book to their left side and slanted, as shown.
- Pencils should not be held too close to the point as this can interrupt pupils' line of vision.
- Extra practice with left-to-right exercises may be necessary before pupils write left-to-right automatically.



Tripod grip for left-handed children.



Paper positioning for left-handed children



Fine Motor Skills Warm Up Exercises

Finger and Hand Exercises

Here are some fun warm up exercises to wake up your fingers and hand muscles before you start to write.

ACTION	DESCRIPTION
Finger Stretches	Put the tips of your fingers together and straighten your fingers by pushing your fingertips against each other. Repeat 5 times.
Play the Piano	Touch the table with one finger at a time from each hand like you are playing the piano. Start slowly and get faster.
Fishing Hooks	Put your elbows on the table, keep your hands apart, squeeze your fingers together and point them to the sky. Keep your knuckles straight and make a hook with your fingers. Hold, then straighten five times.
Fireworks	Make a fist with both hands and hold them tight. Then let your fingers go like exploding fireworks! Repeat five times.
Take a Bow	Put your elbows on the table, keep your hands apart, squeeze your fingers together and point them to the sky. Bend your knuckles but keep your fingers straight so your fingers bow to each other. Repeat 5 times.

[Click here for PDF >](#)

[Click here for Tripod Grip Rhyme >](#)

Pencil Activities

Practice holding your pencil correctly by using our tripod grip rhyme.

ACTION	DESCRIPTION
Quack, Quack, Fingers	Start your warm up by making a beak with your thumb and first finger on both hands. Make them quack twice, then do the same with your other fingers.
Roly-poly Pencil	Lay your pencil flat across your fingers. Use your thumb to roll it backwards and forwards. Now try it with your other hand.
Crawling Caterpillar	Hold your pencil ready to write. Move the pencil through your three fingers to the top like a crawling caterpillar. When you get to the top, make your caterpillar crawl back down again!
Helicopter Twirls	Hold your pencil in the middle with your three correct fingers. Make a twirling helicopter by moving your fingers one at a time from one side of the pencil to the other.

Now you are ready for handwriting!

Gross Motor Skills Warm Up Exercises

[Click here for A4 posters >](#)

or click each picture to enlarge.

<p>KOOK THE KOOKABURRA SAYS: "JUMP UP AND DOWN."</p> <p>Two-footed standing jump with waving arms.</p>	<p>CRAB THE CRAB SAYS: "WALK SIDEWAYS."</p> <p>Take side steps one way, then the other.</p>	<p>FLAM THE FLAMINGO SAYS: "STAND ON ONE LEG AND NOW THE OTHER LEG."</p> <p>Balance on left foot, then balance on right foot.</p>	<p>CHIRP THE CAT SAYS: "STRETCH UP AS FAR AS YOU CAN."</p> <p>Stretch up and try and touch the ceiling.</p>	<p>COW THE COW SAYS: "MILK A COW."</p> <p>Move arms up and down in milking action.</p>	<p>SNAKE THE SNAKE SAYS: "SLITHER ALONG THE FLOOR."</p> <p>Lie down and wriggle along the floor.</p>	<p>BOMBS THE BEAR SAYS: "WALK ON ALL FOURS."</p> <p>Move around on hands and feet.</p>
<p>HANK THE HORSE SAYS: "TROT AROUND THE ROOM. NOW GALLOR."</p> <p>Trot, lifting knees high then run faster.</p>	<p>OGGA THE OSTRICH SAYS: "TAKE GREAT BIG STEPS."</p> <p>Take long strides around the room.</p>	<p>ENCKE THE ELEPHANT SAYS: "LIFT ME UP."</p> <p>Pretend to lift up a heavy object.</p>	<p>DEBBA THE FROG SAYS: "HOP UP AS HIGH AS YOU CAN."</p> <p>Hop on one leg, then on the other leg.</p>	<p>PEBBO THE PUPPY SAYS: "CHASE YOUR TAIL ROUND AND ROUND."</p> <p>Spin around on the spot.</p>	<p>PUPPA THE PENGUIN SAYS: "WADDLE FROM SIDE TO SIDE."</p> <p>Stand straight and tilt from left to right.</p>	<p>BILLY THE BLACKBIRD SAYS: "FLAP YOUR ARMS UP AND DOWN."</p> <p>Raise arms up and down, palms facing down.</p>

Thank you for your continued support at home.

For additional guidance please watch the following video. How to log in at home - <https://www.letterjoin.co.uk/videos/homelogin.mp4>