

Cassiobury Junior Handwriting Progression

Term 1					
	Pre KS2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week 1	Simple dictation for assessment	Introducing ee	Introducing rr	Practising sloped writing: joining from r: ra, re, ri, ro, ru	Dictation and assessment of handwriting fluency
Week 2	Clockwise and anti clockwise circular movements	Practising diagonal join, no ascender: le	Introducing ss	Practising sloped writing: joining from s: sh, su, sc, sl, sw, sp	Dictation and assessment of handwriting fluency
Week 3	Vertical, horizontal and diagonal lines	Writing numbers 1–100	Introducing qu	Practising sloped writing: proportion – joining from f to ascender: fl, ft	Handwriting for different purposes: fast-joined and print letters
Week 4	c, a, d, g, q, o	Introducing diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: ea	Revising parallel ascenders and descenders	Practising sloped writing: size – joining from f, no ascender: fa, fe, fi, fo, fu	Handwriting for different purposes: fast-joined and print letters
Week 5	c, a, d, g, q, o	Practising diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: igh	Revising parallel ascenders and descenders	Different styles for different purposes: writing a paragraph	Handwriting for different purposes: note making
Week 6	Letter formation: i j t j y	Practising diagonal join	Revising joins: letter spacing	Practising sloped writing: speed: ff	Handwriting for different purposes: note making

Week 7	Letter formation: ll Letter formation: L I T U J Y	to anticlockwise letters: dg, ng	Revising joins: spacing between words	Practising sloped writing: speed and legibility: rr	Handwriting for different purposes: neat writing
Week 8		Introducing horizontal join to anticlockwise letters: oo, oa	Revising joins: consistency of size	Practising sloped writing: size, proportion and spacing: ss	Handwriting for different purposes: neat writing
Week 9	Letter formation: b h k p	Practising horizontal join to anticlockwise letters: wa, wo	Revising joins: fluency	Practising sloped writing: building speed: qu	Handwriting for different purposes: print letters for personal details/form filling
Week 10	Letter formation: l r j p t b m u	Introducing mixed joins for three letters: air, ear	Revising joins: parallel ascenders	Different styles for different purposes: decorative alphabets	Handwriting for different purposes: print letters for personal details/form filling
Week 11	Letter formation: R N M B H K P	Practising mixed joins for three letters: oor, our	Revising joins: parallel ascenders and descenders	Different styles for different purposes	Different styles of writing
Week 12	Letter formation: d f g f q	Practising mixed joins for three letters: ing	Revising horizontal join from r to an anticlockwise letter: rs	Different styles for different purposes	Different styles of writing
Term 2					
	Pre KS2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week 1	Letter formation: ff Letter formation: ss	Building on diagonal join to ascender: ck, al, el, at, il, ill	Introducing diagonal join from p and b to ascender: ph, pl, bl	Practising sloped writing: size, proportion and spacing: ss	Handwriting for different purposes: presentation

Week 2	Letter formation: C A D O S G Q E F	Building on diagonal join, no ascender: ui, ey, aw, ur, an, ip	Introducing diagonal join from p and b, no ascender: bu, bi, be, pu, pi, pe	Practising sloped writing: building speed: qu	Handwriting for different purposes: presentation
Week 3	Letter formation: h d y g	Building on horizontal join to ascender: ok, ot, ob, ol	Introducing diagonal join from p and b to an anticlockwise letter: pa, po, ps, ba, bo, bs	Different styles for different purposes: decorative alphabets	Handwriting for different purposes: decorated capitals
Week 4	Letter formation: z v w x	Building on horizontal join, no ascender: oi, oy, on, op, ov	Revising parallel ascenders and descenders: bb, pp	Different styles for different purposes	Handwriting for different purposes: decorated capitals
Week 5	Letter formation: zz	Building on diagonal join to anticlockwise letters: ad, cc, eg, ic, ad, ug, dd, ag	Break letters: x, z	Different styles for different purposes	Handwriting for labelling
Week 6	Mixing all the letter families	Building on horizontal join to anticlockwise letters: oc, og, od, va, vo	Relative size of capitals	Sloped writing: proportion, joining p and b to ascenders: ph, pl, bl	Handwriting for labelling

Week 7	Practising all the capital letters	Introducing joins to s: as, es, is, os, ws, ns, ds, ls, ts, ks	Revising parallel ascenders	Handwriting for different purposes: joining from p and b, no ascender: bu, bi, pe, pu, pi, pr	
Week 8	Practising all the numbers 0–9	Practising joining ed and ing	Revising parallel ascenders and break letters	Practising sloped writing: parallel downstrokes: pp, bb	
Week 9	Numbers 10–20: spacing	Practising joining ed and ing	Relative sizes of letters	Practising sloped writing: all double letters	
Week 10	Writing words with ck and qu	Practising joining through a word in stages: no ascenders or descenders	Proportion of letters	Practising sloped writing for speed: tial, cial	
Week 11	Practising long vowel phonemes: ai, igh, oo	Practising joining through a word in stages: parallel ascenders	Consistency of size	Practising sloped writing for fluency	
Week 12	ee, oa, oo	Introducing joining from s to ascender: sh, sl, st, sk	Proportion	Handwriting for different purposes: print alphabet	

Term 3					
	Pre KS2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week 1	Practising ch unjoined Introducing diagonal join to ascender: ch	Introducing joining from s, no ascender: sw, si, se, sm, sn, sp, su	Spacing between letters and words	Capitals	
Week 2	Practising ai unjoined Introducing diagonal join, no ascender: ai	Introducing joining from s to an anticlockwise letter: sa, sc, sd, sg, so, sq	Size, proportion and spacing	Style for speed: crossbar join from t: th, ti, tr, ta, tt	
Week 3	Practising wh unjoined Introducing horizontal join to ascender: wh	Introducing joining from r to an ascender: rb, rh, rk, rl, rt	Fluency: writing longer words	Style for speed: looping from g: gl, gi, gr, ga, gg	
Week 4	Practising ow unjoined Introducing horizontal join, no ascender: ow	Introducing joining from r, no ascender: ri, ru, rn, rp	Speed and fluency	Style for speed: looping from j and y: je, jo, ye, yr, fo	
Week 5	Horizontal joins to ascenders: ch ai wh ow	Introducing joining from r to an anticlockwise letter: ra, rd, rg, ro	Revising break letters	Style for speed: looping from f Style for speed: different joins to s	

Week 6	Practising diagonal join to ascender: th, ch	Introducing joining from r to e: are, ere, ure, ore, ire	Print alphabet: presentation	Style for speed: looping from b	
Week 7	Practising diagonal join, no ascender: ai, ay	Introducing break letters: g, j, y, f, b, p, x, z	Capital letters: presentation	Style for speed: joining from v, w, x and z	
Week 8	Practising diagonal join, no ascender: ir, er	Introducing joining to f: if, ef, af, of	Practising sloped writing: diagonal join to ascender: th, sh, nb, hd, ht, st	Handwriting for different purposes: abbreviations	
Week 9	Practising horizontal join to ascender: wh, oh	Introducing joining from f to an ascender: fl, ft	Practising sloped writing: diagonal join, no ascender: ai, ay, kn, er, ie, en	Improving handwriting: the importance of consistent sizing	
Week 10	Practising horizontal join, no ascender: ow, ou	Introducing joining from f, no ascender: fe, fi, fu, fr, fy	Practising sloped writing: diagonal join to an anticlockwise letter: ac, sc, bo, da, ea, ho	Improving handwriting: the importance of proportion	

Week 11	Introducing diagonal join to e: ie, ue	Introducing joining from f to an anticlockwise letter: fo, fa	Practising sloped writing: horizontal join to ascender: wh, wl, oh, ol, of, ob	Handwriting for different purposes: fast-joined and print letters	
Week 12	Introducing horizontal join to e: oe, ve	Introducing ff	Practising sloped writing: horizontal join, no ascender: oi, oy, ou, op, ve	Handwriting for different purposes: note making	
Age related expectations					
Early years	Pre KS2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Mark making Climbing such as monkey bars by holding their own bodyweight Fine finger skills such as bead threading, Hama beads etc	Sit correctly at a desk Holding a pencil correctly and comfortably Begin to form lower case letters in the correct direction Starting and finishing letters in the correct place Practise horizontal and diagonal strokes	Form lower case letters of the correct size/proportion to one another Practise the joins both horizontal and diagonal for joining letters Learn which are joined and which are not Write capital letters and digits of the correct size, proportion, orientation and to one another and lower case letters Use spacing between words	Use diagonal and horizontal joins to join lower case letters Develop the parallel lines of ascenders and descenders Handwriting should be consistently joined in all independent writing All spellings, dictation and composition should be practised in joined handwriting	Write legibly, fluently in joined handwriting Can develop their own 'style' within the correct formation of joins. Develop speed with fluency Continue to keep capital letters in proportion and ensure that they are not joined	Taught to use capitals or separate lettering for different purposes such as labels on diagrams Use the writing implement that best suits them.

Points to note

- Children MUST be taught to hold pen/pencil correctly and loosely for flexibility
- If the letters can be felt on the back of the page then the child is pressing too hard and therefore their hand will hurt
- Chair should be straight and tucked in comfortably into the table
- Lower back should be back in the chair
- Child's 'free' hand should hold the book steady without getting in the way of the writing hand
- Children can tilt their books
- Know which children are left handed and seat them accordingly, the elbows of a left and right hander should not be clashing
- School font must be taught and modelled
- Staff should use joined handwriting in children's books
- A pen licence can be issued when a child is fluently and correctly using joined handwriting
- All year groups should regularly practise handwriting

Achieving a pen licence – to write in pen in exercise books

- Writing should be consistently on the line not dipping above or below.
- Writing should be consistently joined using the correct joins.
- Writing should be consistent in size which means that, *a lower case s cannot be the same height as a t*, as an example.
- That this can be maintained through a piece of writing.
- That this is evident in a range of books and over time.
- This should be maintained after a pen licence has been achieved

Note

There are children who may struggle with handwriting, for reasons such as dysgraphia, hypermobility, sensory and physical need. Teachers can choose to let a child use the best pen or pencil for their needs.