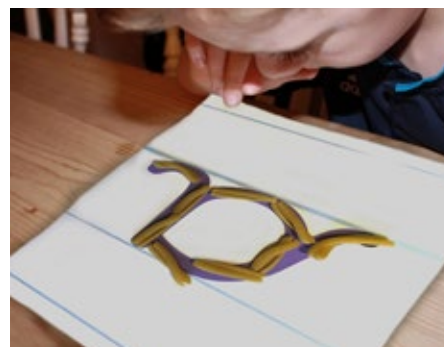
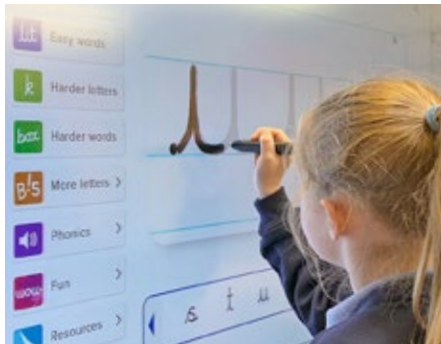


Letter-join

Handwriting and dyslexia

A guide to the Letter-join handwriting scheme



Letter-join's handwriting scheme offers a variety of teaching and learning pathways

Letter-join delivers a multi-sensory approach to teaching and learning handwriting, which is fundamental when teaching pupils with dyslexia.

Its combination of interactive animations, games, activities and worksheets enables children to experience a range of visual, auditory, kinaesthetic and tactile factors of teaching and learning.

Handwriting can be a challenge for dyslexic pupils and Letter-join can help with strategies to prepare for the task. Letter-join Lesson planners include activities to improve fine and gross motor skills, how to sit comfortably and how to hold a pencil correctly before starting to write.



The seven Letter-join Lesson Planners provide structured lessons for teaching printed and cursive handwriting.

Advantages of cursive handwriting

- The flowing action of cursive handwriting can be less fatiguing for dyslexic pupils, so improves writing speed.
- As all cursive letters start on the baseline and move from left to right, this prevents letter reversals, common with dyslexia.
- The joining of cursive letters allows the brain to maintain a thought without interruption.
- As the letters are joined, the spacing of letters within a word is more consistent and the spacing between words more even.

Advantages of printed handwriting

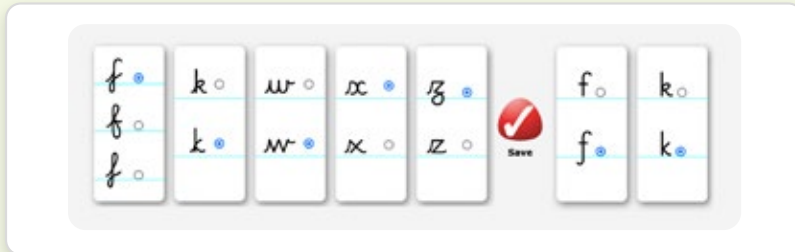
- Print is more widely used; most books and educational materials are printed.
- Cursive handwriting can be harder to read, therefore, printed letters are required for filling in forms.
- Printed handwriting can be easier for the dyslexic child when writing a word, as they do not have to consider how to join it to the next letter.



Letter Families online activity reinforces different letter shapes and shows the correct way to write letters. Teachers can choose to display with Cursive or Print fonts and print worksheets with their preferred font choice.

Teaching handwriting with Letter-join

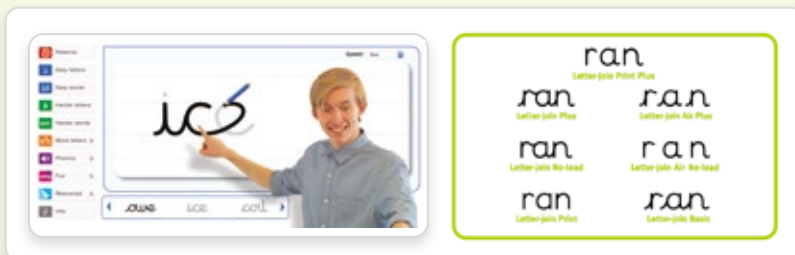
Letter-join offers the teachers of dyslexic pupils the opportunity to choose their preferred method of teaching handwriting, starting with either cursive or printed letters.



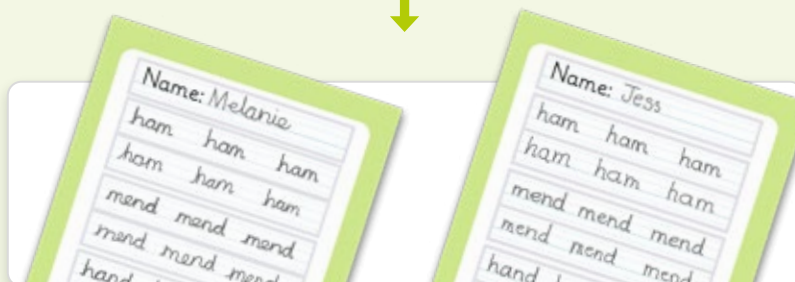
Letterforms and fonts to suit your handwriting policy



Lesson Planners for cursive or printed letters



Teachers can select different Letter-join fonts for activities and worksheets



Choose and print worksheets in your chosen font for real handwriting practice.

Start teaching with Cursive Letters

The British Dyslexia Association states:

'It's recommended that children learn to write using continuous cursive handwriting so they don't have to learn how to form letters twice when they need to write more quickly later on.'

Dr Daryl Brown, head teacher at Maple Hayes Dyslexia School, states:

'Writing in cursive makes every letter feel different, so is a form of kinaesthetic learning. A child with dyslexia can learn correct spellings by the feel of each letter.'

'Cursive handwriting also keeps the pen in contact with the paper through the word. Once a child has learnt cursive writing they do not have to focus their attention on visually forming and placing each letter. This enables them to write faster.'

To begin teaching handwriting using cursive letters, select the Letter-join Plus font to use with the Cursive Lesson Planners and all supporting resources.

Start teaching with Printed Letters

The latest DfE guidance on teaching phonics states:

'At first, children should not be taught to join letters or to start every letter on the line with a lead-in, because these practices cause unnecessary difficulty for beginners. Children may be taught to join the letters in digraphs, but this is optional.'

'Children may be taught simple exit strokes for letters that end on the line (a, d, h, i, k, l, m, n, t, u).'

To begin teaching handwriting using printed letters, select the Letter-join Print Plus font to use with the Printed Lesson Planners and all supporting resources.

Letter-join 

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handwriting examples on Twitter.**

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