

## How do we teach writing in EYFS?

As children learn new sounds, they also learn which graphemes (letters) represent each sound. Children will be taught to use the RWInc handwriting phrases to help them form each letter accurately (see image below). Children will also learn how to use the 'crocodile snap' grip to hold their pencil correctly when writing.



**Ruth Miskin Training**

**Handwriting phrases for helping your child to form letters**

This works best if your child practises for a short time every day.

1. Show the picture side and air-write as you say the phrase.
2. Ask your child to practise in the air with you.
3. Using a sharp pencil and sat at a table, encourage your child to have a go.
4. Praise your child for their efforts.

m	Maisie, mountain, mountain	
a	round the apple, down the leaf	
s	slither down the snake	
d	round his bottom, up his tall neck and down to his feet	
t	down the tower, across the tower	
i	down the body, dot for the head	
n	down Nobby, over his net	
p	down the plait and over the pirate's face	
o	round her face, down her hair and give her a curl	
g	all around the orange	
c	curl around the caterpillar	
k	down the kangaroo's body, tail and leg	
u	down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle	
b	down the laces to the heel, round the toe	
f	down the stem and draw the leaves	
e	lift off the top and scoop out the egg	
l	down the long leg	
h	down the head to the hooves and over his back	
r	down his back and then curl over his arm	
j	down his body, curl and dot	
v	down a wing, up a wing	
y	down a horn, up a horn and under his head	
w	down, up, down, up	
z	zig-zag-zig	
q	round her head, up past her earrings and down her hair	
x	down the arm and leg and repeat the other side	



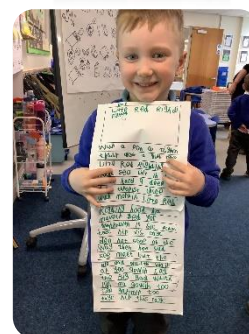
In Reception, a child's writing journey begins by giving meaning to marks they make such as writing their name.

Once children know there is a sound/symbol relationship they will begin to write some recognisable letters. After this, children will then start to indentify initial sounds in

words and then middle and end sounds to write cvc words. Children will use 'Fred Fingers' to help them spell cvc words such as 'hat' or 'mat'. After children have grasped this skill, they will begin to write simple captions such as 'the cat' and then developing this further by writing short senetnces.

From autumn term, children in Reception start using 'Talk for Writing'. Talk for Writing is an approach to teaching writing that encompasses a three-stage pedagogy: 'imitation' (where pupils learn texts using texts maps), 'innovation' (where pupils use these ideas and to co-construct new versions with their teachers), and 'invention' (where teachers help pupils to create original pieces of writing independently). This format aim to improve writing ability by giving pupils an understanding of the structure and elements of written language.

By the end of Reception, children will begin to write sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops.



# Reading and Writing in the Early Years



## How do we teach reading in EYFS?

At Whitkirk, we use Read Write Inc (RWI) which is a phonics programme that helps all children to learn to read fluently and speedily. The programme is designed for children aged 4-7 years.

Children learn to read sounds and blend them into words. They apply this phonic knowledge to read and comprehend storybooks that are carefully matched to the sounds they know.

To find out more about Read Write Inc, watch the video below:

[Parent video: What is Read Write Inc Phonics - YouTube](#)



In Reception, children will begin by learning to read all the set 1 sounds (see image below) and then taught how to blend these into words. Fred the frog helps the children to blend the sounds together which is then used to help them read. This is called 'Fred Talk'. For example, 'cat' will be broken up into the single sounds 'c-a-t'. Please watch video to find out more with how to support your child with blending.

[Parent video: Sound blending - YouTube](#)



We teach our children the 'pure' sounds every letter and group of letters make in the English language. Below is a video that explains the importance of teaching 'pure sounds'.

[Parent video: How to say the sounds - YouTube](#)



Speed Sounds Set 1

m	a	s	d	t
i	n	p	g	o
c	k	u	b	f
e	l	h	sh	r
j	v	y	w	th
z	ch	qu	x	ng
				nk

## Developing a love for reading

Reading is at the heart of the curriculum, and we want children to develop a love for reading at an early age.

Class texts are carefully selected and will be shared with parents weekly. These texts will be read daily and be made available for the children in the reading area. Each week the children will study the language in the text, retell the story using story maps, describe characters feelings and make predictions and conclusions.



Every week the children will also have the opportunity to visit the EYFS library to choose a 'Reading for Pleasure' book to take home for their enjoyment. This book will be for the children to enjoy and develop their language and inference skills.



Secret Reader



Parents will also be invited into class to read a story of their choice to the children. This is a surprise to the children each week creating a sense of excitement and pleasure for reading!