

Mastering the Flow: A Year 4 Handwriting Guide

Learning objective: To develop consistent, joined-up handwriting by understanding letter formation, spacing, and the mechanics of fluent penmanship.

Key Vocabulary

Use this vocabulary that to refine your writing style. The terms are grouped into 'Formation', 'Spacing and Layout', and 'Presentation' to help you focus on specific aspects of your handwriting technique.

Ascender The part of a letter that rises above the baseline	Descender The part of a letter that extends below the baseline	Baseline The imaginary line upon which all letters sit
Cursive A style of writing where letters are joined together	Ligature The small, horizontal stroke that connects two letters	Fluency The ability to write smoothly and at a consistent speed
Proportion The relationship between the size of letters and the space around them	Alignment Ensuring all letters sit neatly along the baseline	Slant The angle at which your letters lean; cursive letters often slant to the right
Consistency Maintaining the same size, shape, and style throughout your writing	Pacing Controlling the speed of your pen to create uniform letter sizes	Legibility How easy it is for a reader to identify your handwriting
Terminal The final stroke or 'tail' at the end of a letter	Loop A rounded shape formed in letters like 'l' and 'o'	Pressure The amount of force applied to the pen or pencil
Posture The way you sit while writing, which affects your handwriting	Explain why main...	Compare and con...
Justify your ans... Does the height of an ascender affect the overall look of the text?	What might happ...	How does the 'lig...
If Pip the caterpill...		