

Children need to have the necessary level of development in their muscles that support a secure pencil grip.

Right Hand



Left Hand



- To help develop these muscles here are some fun ideas that will help.

#### Top tips

- Pegging up washing, threading beads, manipulating play-Doh, using tweezers, knife and fork etc
- Encourage your child to experiment with making marks, scribbling, writing random letters and numbers with different pens, pencils and tools.
- Do encourage your child to consistently use the same hand. It doesn't matter which one, but if in doubt, watch them to see which they use most often and with most control.
- Encourage them to do 'pretend' writing...shopping lists, letters, messages etc. Ask them to tell you about it and act as if their writing is perfectly normal and acceptable. This will give them confidence for future writing.

#### Support writing

- Keep letters big to start with and in a pale colour; help your child to trace over the top correctly before they attempt to copy.



*Barrowby Church of England Primary  
School*

**“Look...  
I can write  
my name!”**



Right Hand



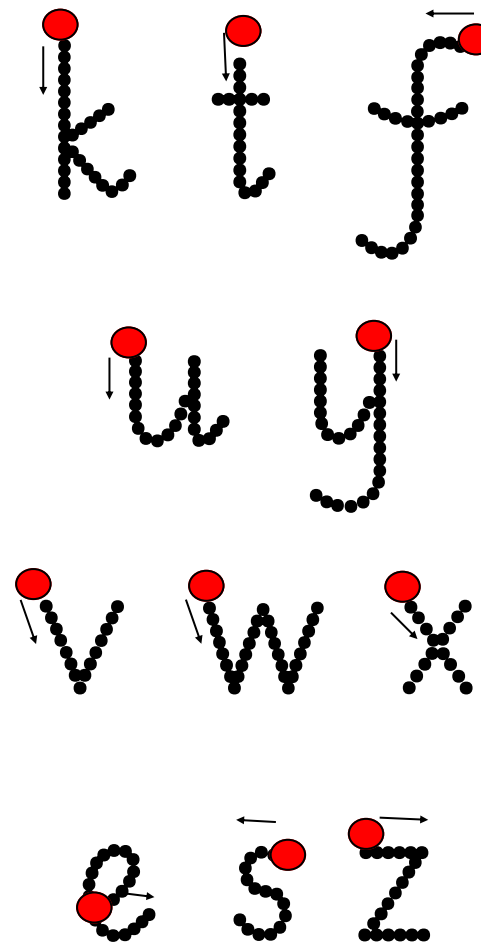
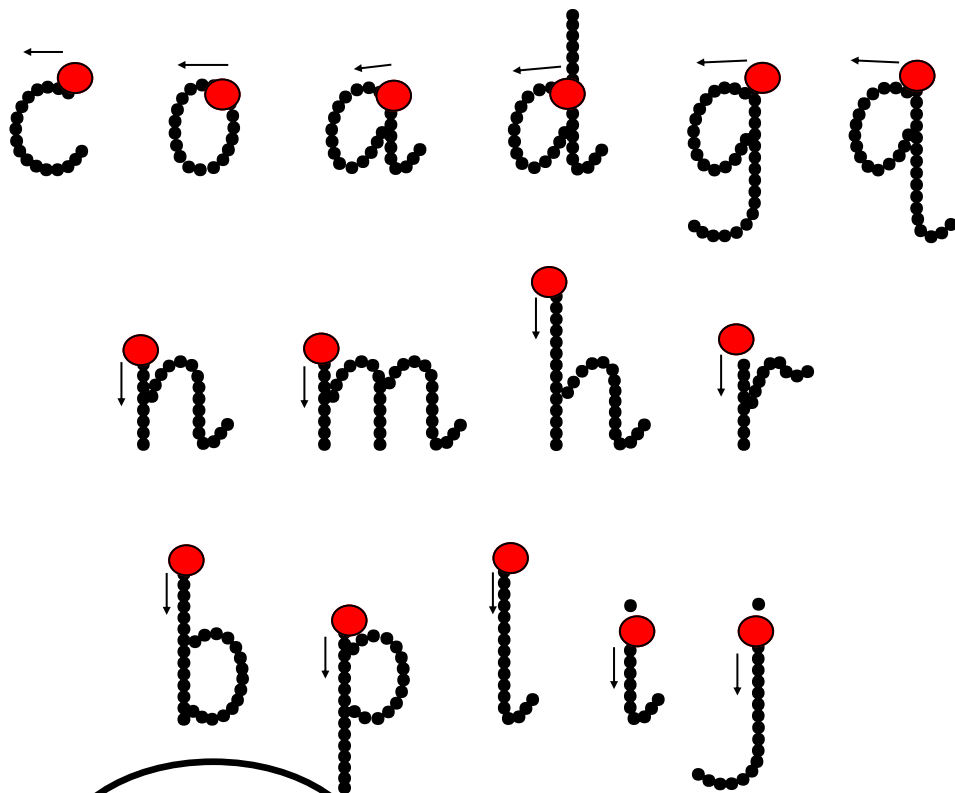
This leaflet is for reference when your child is already beginning to write letters and/or numbers by him/herself.

Left Hand



This is how we write lower case letters:

(remember to always go anti clockwise on the first six letters)



Psst... we always start on the dot!

- "I always use **lower case letters** except for a **CAPITAL LETTER** for the first letter of my name."
- "I can hold my pencil with a pinch between my thumb and two fingers."
- "I always try to remember to start at the **left** side of the paper."
- "I always start at the top of the letter." (except for **e** and **d**)
- "I try not to take my pencil off the paper from the start to the finish of each letter!" (except for t /f /k /i, /j /x )

Important bit for grown ups on the back