

- **Please** talk to your child's group leader about whether or not he/she is ready to start writing letters yet.
- This leaflet is for reference when your child is already beginning to write letters and/or numbers by him/herself.
- Some children are just not ready. They haven't reached the necessary level of development in their muscles.
- Many children just need opportunities for free mark making, drawing and scribbling on a large and small scale.
- 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.

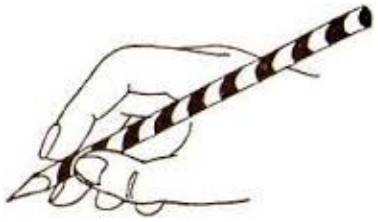


- Do encourage your child to consistently use the same hand. It doesn't matter which one, but if in doubt, watch them to see which they use most often and with most control.
- Do let children experiment with making marks, scribbling, writing random letters and numbers with different pens, pencils and tools. 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.



Wyndham Park  
Nursery School

“Look...  
I can write  
my name!”



- “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)
- “I try not to take my pencil off the paper from the start to the finish of each letter (**except for t / f / k**)

This is how we write lower case letters:

c o a d g q

(\*remember to always go anti clockwise on these letters)

n m h r

b p l i j

k t f

Psst.....we  
always start  
on the dot!

u y  
v w x  
e s z

.....important bit for grown ups on the back...