

## Fine Motor Control

Fine motor skills are the manner in which we use our fingers, hands and arms including reaching, grasping, manipulation objects and using different tools. These skills are crucial for successful handwriting later on.

To help improve your child's fine motor control, engage children in activities such as:

- Play dough
- Weaving
- Threading
- Using tweezers
- Finger painting/mark making
- Cutting and sticking
- Lego
- Peg boards
- Stencilling

Useful websites:

There are lots of great ideas on the internet. We have listed some below which we hope you will find useful.

[www.sow sprout play.com](http://www.sow sprout play.com)

[www.theimaginationtree.com](http://www.theimaginationtree.com)

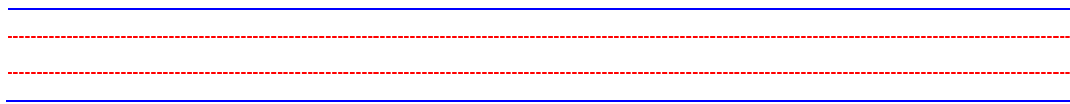
[www.loveplaylearn.com](http://www.loveplaylearn.com)

[www.learningforkids.net](http://www.learningforkids.net)



## Handwriting at Grove Park Primary School

- In Year 1 we are beginning to link letters together in our phonics and literacy lessons.
- In Year 2 we teach a handwriting session once a week, where the children are taught to write High Frequency Words in a cursive style.
- Once clear letter formation has been achieved we encourage the children to use a cursive style in all of their writing.
- During handwriting lessons, we use lines like these:



### General points:

- Each lower case letter is taught with both a lead-in and a lead-out stroke.
- It is possible to join all lower case letters.
- The pencil should be lifted from the page as little as possible.
- Joined handwriting can help children with spellings, especially the spelling of tricky words e.g. the, come, was, they.
- Ascenders (letters that reach the top blue line) are: b d f h k l t and all CAPITAL LETTERS
- Descenders (letters that drop down to the base blue line) are: g j p q y. The part that goes down to the baseline is called the tail.
- All other letters should sit in between the two red lines.
- When writing, children should sit with feet flat on the floor, back straight and paper angled.

We hope you find this information useful,  
Miss Alvey and Miss Fogden