

## Key points about joining letters (the Nelson handwriting scheme)

- ❖ Letters that end at the top join horizontally: f o r v w
- ❖ Letters that end at the bottom join diagonally: a c d e h i k l m n  
u t s
- ❖ Letters that are traditionally not joined: b j p g q y z x. These are not joined because they end in the opposite direction (to the left) to the direction of writing (to the right).
- ❖ The letters g and y can be looped, but these letters end to the left so it is therefore more consistent for them not to be joined. Children who loop these letters often then contrive other unsuitable loops, such as for the letter s.
- ❖ Capital letters should not be huge. They should be no higher than ascenders.
- ❖ Letters should not have a lead-in stroke.