



A number formation mantra for Corporation Road School

Rationale

To give clear guidance to teachers on how to teach children to correctly form numbers
To ensure consistency of number formation across school
To give pupils a clear and memorable script to help them form numbers

This approach follows on from the success of the whole school letter formation mantra

How the mantra was devised

Our school mantra was devised through consultation with all key stages, in particular foundation stage and Key Stage 1. The mantra draws on existing good practice used in school, which is now formalised into a formal school mantra

The Mantra

- 0 Round like an O, that's a zero.
- 1 A straight line down is fun – that's how we make a one.
- 2 Around and back on a railroad track. Two-Two, Two-Two!
- 3 Around and around just like a B, forget the front back and that's a three.
- 4 Down and across and down once more. That's the way we make a four.
- 5 Down the neck and round the tummy that's fat. Mr Five wears a hat.
- 6 Curl back round and give her a loop. Miss six swings a hoop.
- 7 Across the sky and down from heaven. That's the way you make a seven.
- 8 Make an S but don't wait, go back up and make an eight!
- 9 Make a circle then down a line – that's the way to make a nine.

Notes

- The number three is not have a rounded top
- The number four is to have a fully connected centre vertical line
- Although taking one's pencil off the paper to make the five, this method will ensure a flat top and thus prevent fives looking like the letter S
- The number six is to have a curved downward line not a straight vertical line
- The number nine is to have straight vertical line – not curved
- Numbers from ten (including ten) are to be constructed using the mantra for numbers 1-9 to avoid any confusion for the children

