

Foundational

This is the first of 4 workshops designed to help those new to calligraphy get a sound footing in this wonderful art. It will also be useful to those wishing to refresh their knowledge of and skill with this script, or to refine it.

The Foundational style is an ideal way to begin learning to use the broad-edged pen, as it is one of the easiest and most straightforward letter styles to write. This is partly because it relates well to the Roman forms of letters we all know so well.

We will begin with the elements of making pen strokes, getting used to how the broad-edged pen works, before learning how they fit together to make satisfying and pleasing letters. We'll start with lower case letters and move onto capital letters as time and progress permits.

While challenging (what new learning isn't?), the course will be easy-going, with students being encouraged to learn at their own pace.

Materials List

Pilot Parallel Pen 3.8, 4.5 **OR** 6 mm – only one of these is required

(this pen is recommended as it can be pre-filled with ink, eliminating the need to keep loading the nib). However, if you prefer, a William Mitchell nib No. 2, 1.5, or 1 **OR** Brause 2, 2.5 or 3mm will be fine.)

Pilot Parallel Pen ink cartridges – at least 2. Any colour. If using William Mitchell or Brause nibs, any quality ink (i.e. doesn't bleed) of your choosing, or gouache. Acrylic ink or paint is not recommended.

Paper will be provided (this is because the Pilot ink cartridges are prone to bleeding on many papers).

Ruler (for pencil lines)

Pencil - mechanical or medium hard standard (F or HB)

Water container

Paper towels/ cloth (for wiping nib)

Lunch

Tea, coffee, sugar, mugs, plates and cutlery are provided