

## Skills Progression Grid: Spelling

|                                   | NURSERY   | RECEPTION   | YEAR 1   | YEAR 2   | YEAR 3   | YEAR 4  | YEAR 5  | YEAR 6   |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Phonics and Spelling Rules</b> | <p><b>30 - 50 months</b><br/>Single letter sounds</p> <p>Set one sounds and words</p> | <p><b>40 - 60 months</b><br/>To continue a rhyming string.</p> <p>To hear and say the initial sound in words.</p> <p>To segment the sounds in simple words and blend them together.</p> <p>To link sounds to letters, naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet.</p> <p><b>Early Learning Goal:</b><br/>To use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds.</p> | <p>To know all letters of the alphabet and the sounds which they most commonly represent.</p> <p>To recognise consonant digraphs which have been taught and the sounds which they represent.</p> <p>To recognise vowel digraphs which have been taught and the sounds which they represent.</p> <p>To recognise words with adjacent consonants.</p> <p>To accurately spell most words containing the 40+ previously taught phonemes and GPCs.</p> <p>To spell some words in a phonically plausible way, even if sometimes incorrect.</p> <p>To apply Y1 spelling rules and guidance*, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the sounds /f/, /l/,</li> <li>/s/, /z/ and /k/ spelt 'ff', 'll', 'ss',</li> </ul> | <p>To segment spoken words into phonemes and to represent these with graphemes, spelling many of these words correctly and making phonically-plausible attempts at others.</p> <p>To recognise new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known and to learn some words with each spelling, including some common homophones (e.g. bare/bear, blue/blew, night/knight).</p> <p>To apply further Y2 spelling rules and guidance*, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the /dʒ/ sound spelt as 'ge' and 'dge' (e.g. fudge, huge) or spelt as 'g' or 'j' elsewhere in words (e.g. magic, adjust);</li> <li>the /n/ sound spelt 'kn' and 'gn' (e.g. knock, gnaw);</li> </ul> | <p>To spell words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt 'ei', 'eigh', or 'ey' (e.g. vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey).</p> <p>To spell words with the /i/ sound spelt 'y' in a position other than at the end of words (e.g. mystery, gym).</p> <p>To spell words with a /k/ sound spelt with 'ch' (e.g. scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character).</p> <p>To spell words ending in the /g/ sound spelt 'gue' and the /k/ sound spelt 'que' (e.g. league, tongue, antique, unique).</p> <p>To spell words with a /sh/ sound spelt with 'ch' (e.g. chef, chalet, machine, brochure).</p> <p>To spell words with a short /u/ sound spelt with 'ou' (e.g. young, touch, double, trouble, country).</p> | <p>To spell words with /shuhn/ endings spelt with 'sion' (if the root word ends in 'se', 'de' or 'd', e.g. division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television).</p> <p>To spell words with a /shuhn/ sound spelt with 'ssion' (if the root word ends in 'ss' or 'mit', e.g. expression, discussion, confession, permission, admission).</p> <p>To spell words with a /shuhn/ sound spelt with 'tion' (if the root word ends in 'te' or 't' or has no definite root, e.g. invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion).</p> <p>To spell words with a /shuhn/ sound spelt with 'cian' (if the root word ends in 'c' or 'cs' e.g. musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician).</p> <p>To spell words with</p> | <p>To spell words with endings that sound like /shuhs/ spelt with -cious (e.g. vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious).</p> <p>To spell words with endings that sound like /shuhs/ spelt with -tious or -ious (e.g. ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious).</p> <p>To spell words with 'silent' letters (e.g. doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight).</p> <p>To spell words containing the letter string 'ough' (e.g. ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought, rough, tough, enough, cough, though, although, dough, through, thorough, borough, plough, bough).</p> | <p>To spell words ending in -able and -ably (e.g. adorable/adorably, applicable/applicably, considerable/considerably, tolerable/tolerably).</p> <p>To spell words ending in -ible and -ibly (e.g. possible/possibly, horrible/horribly, terrible/terribly, visible/visibly, incredible/incredibly, sensible/sensibly).</p> <p>To spell words with a long /e/ sound spelt 'ie' or 'ei' after 'c' (e.g. deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling) and exceptions (e.g. protein, caffeine, seize).</p> <p>To spell words with endings which sound like /shuhl/ after a vowel letter using 'cial' (e.g. official, special, artificial).</p> <p>To spell words with endings which sound like /shuhl/ after a vowel letter using 'tial' (e.g. partial, confidential, essential).</p> |

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|  |  |  | <p>'zz' and 'ck' and exceptions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the /ŋ/ sound spelt 'n' before 'k' (e.g. bank, think);</li> <li>dividing words into syllables (e.g. rabbit, carrot);</li> <li>the /tʃ/ sound is usually spelt as 'tch' and exceptions;</li> <li>the /v/ sound at the end of words where the letter 'e' usually needs to be added (e.g. have, live);</li> <li>adding -s and -es to words (plural of nouns and the third person singular of verbs);</li> <li>adding the endings -ing, -ed and -er to verbs where no change is needed to the root word (e.g. buzzer, jumping);</li> <li>adding -er and -est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word (e.g. fresher,</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the /r/ sound spelt 'wr' (e.g. write, written);</li> <li>the /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -le (e.g. little, middle) or spelt -el (e.g. camel, tunnel) or spelt -al (e.g. metal, hospital) or spelt -il (e.g. fossil, nostril);</li> <li>the /aɪ/ sound spelt -y (e.g. cry, fly, July);</li> <li>adding -es to nouns and verbs ending in</li> <li>-y where the 'y' is changed to 'i' before the -es (e.g. flies, tries, carries);</li> <li>adding -ed, -ing, -er and -est to a root word ending in -y (e.g. skiing, replied) and exceptions to the rules;</li> <li>adding the endings -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y to words ending in -e with a consonant before (including exceptions);</li> <li>adding -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter (including exceptions);</li> <li>the /ɔ:/ sound</li> </ul> | <p>To spell words ending with the /zher/ sound spelt with 'sure' (e.g. measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure).</p> <p>To spell words ending with the /cher/ sound spelt with 'ture' (e.g. creature, furniture, picture, nature, adventure).</p> | <p>the /s/ sound spelt with 'sc' (e.g. sound spelt with 'sc' (e.g. science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent).</p> |  |  |
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|  |  |  | <p>grandest);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spelling words with the vowel digraphs and trigraphs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 'ai' and 'oi' (e.g. rain, wait, train, point, soil)</li> <li>- 'oy' and 'ay' (e.g. day, toy, enjoy, annoy);</li> <li>- a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e and u-e (e.g. made, theme, ride, woke, tune);</li> <li>- 'ar' (e.g. car, park);</li> <li>- 'ee' (e.g. green, week);</li> <li>- 'ea' (e.g. sea, dream);</li> <li>- 'ea' (e.g. meant, bread);</li> <li>- 'er' stressed sound (e.g. her, person);</li> <li>- 'er' unstressed schwa sound (e.g. better, under);</li> <li>- 'ir' (e.g. girl, first, third);</li> <li>- 'ur' (e.g. turn, church);</li> <li>- 'oo' (e.g. food, soon);</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p>(or) spelt 'a' before 'l' and 'll' (e.g. ball, always);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the /ʌ/ sound spelt 'o' (e.g. other, mother, brother);</li> <li>• the /i:/ sound spelt -ey: the plural forms of these words are made by the addition of -s (e.g. donkeys, monkeys);</li> <li>• the /ɒ/ sound spelt 'a' after 'w' and 'qu' (e.g. want, quantity, squash)</li> <li>• the /ɔ:/ sound spelt 'or' after 'w' (e.g. word, work, worm);</li> <li>• the /ɔ:/ sound spelt 'ar' after 'w' (e.g. warm, towards);</li> </ul> <p>the /z/ sound spelt 's' (e.g. television, usual).</p> |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 'oo' (e.g. book, good);</li><li>- 'oa' (e.g. road, coach);</li><li>- 'oe' (e.g. toe, goes);</li><li>- 'ou' (e.g. loud, sound);</li><li>- 'ow' (e.g. brown, down);</li><li>- 'ow' (e.g. own, show);</li><li>- 'ue' (e.g. true, rescue, Tuesday);</li><li>- 'ew' (e.g. new, threw);</li><li>- 'ie' (e.g. lie, dried);</li><li>- 'ie' (e.g. chief, field);</li><li>- 'igh' (e.g. bright, right);</li><li>- 'or' (e.g. short, morning);</li><li>- 'ore' (e.g. before, shore);</li><li>- 'aw' (e.g. yawn, crawl);</li><li>- 'au' (e.g. author, haunt);</li><li>- 'air' (e.g. hair, chair);</li><li>- 'ear' (e.g. beard, near, year);</li><li>- 'ear' (e.g. bear, pear, wear);</li></ul> |  |  |  |  |  |
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|                               |  |   | <p>- 'are' (e.g. bare, dare, scared);</p> <p>Spelling words ending with -y (e.g. funny, party, family);</p> <p>Spelling new consonants 'ph' and 'wh' (e.g. dolphin, alphabet, wheel, while);</p> <p>Using 'k' for the /k/ sound (e.g. sketch, kit, skin).</p>             |  |   |   |   |  |
| <b>Common Exception Words</b> |  | <b>Early Learning Goal</b><br>To write some irregular common words. | <p>To spell all Y1 common exception words correctly.*</p> <p>To spell days of the week correctly.</p>   | To spell most Y1 and Y2 common exception words correctly.  | To spell many of the Y3 and Y4 statutory spelling words correctly.  | To spell all of the Y3 and Y4 statutory spelling words correctly.   | To spell many of the Y5 and Y6 statutory spelling words correctly.  | To spell all of the Y5 and Y6 statutory spelling words correctly.  |
| <b>Prefixes and Suffixes</b>  |  |   | <p>To use -s and -es to form regular plurals correctly.</p> <p>To use the prefix 'un-' accurately.</p> <p>To successfully add the suffixes -ing, -ed, -er and -est to root words where no change is needed in the spelling of the root words (e.g. helped, quickest).</p> | To add suffixes to spell most words correctly in their writing, e.g. -ment, -ness, -ful, -less, -ly. | <p>To spell most words with the prefixes dis-, mis-, bi-, re- and de- correctly (e.g. disobey, mistreat, bicycle, reapply, defuse).</p> <p>To spell most words with the suffix -ly with no change to the root word; root words that end in 'le', 'al' or 'ic' and the exceptions to the rules.</p> <p>To spell words with added suffixes beginning with a vowel (-er/-ed/-ing) to words with more than one syllable (unstressed last syllable, e.g. limiting offering).</p> | <p>To correctly spell most words with the prefixes in-, il-, im-, ir-, sub-, super-, anti-, auto-, inter-, ex- and non- (e.g. incorrect, illegal, impossible, irrelevant, substandard, superhero, autograph, antisocial, intercity, exchange, nonsense).</p> <p>To form nouns with the suffix -ation (e.g. information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration).</p> <p>To spell words with the suffix -ous with no change to root words, no</p> | <p>To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ate (e.g. activate, motivate communicate).</p> <p>To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ise (e.g. criticise, advertise, capitalise).</p> <p>To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ify (e.g. signify, falsify, glorify).</p> <p>To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -en (e.g. blacken, brighten, flatten).</p> | <p>To use their knowledge of adjectives ending in -ant to spell nouns ending in -ance/-ancy (e.g. observant, observance, expectant, hesitant, hesitancy, tolerant, tolerance, substance).</p> <p>To use their knowledge of adjectives ending in -ent to spell nouns ending in -ence/-ency (e.g. innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence, obedient, obedience, independent).</p> <p>To spell words by adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in -fer (e.g. referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred, reference, referee, preference, transference).</p> |

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|                                     |   |   |   |  | To spell words with added suffixes beginning with a vowel (-er/-ed/-en/-ing) to words with more than one syllable (stressed last syllable e.g. forgotten beginning).  | definitive root word, words ending in 'y', 'our' or 'e' and the exceptions to the rule (e.g. joyous, fabulous, mysterious, rigorous, famous, advantageous).  |  |   |
| <b>Further Spelling Conventions</b> | Write their own name, spelling it correctly | Write their own name, spelling it correctly | <p>To spell simple compound words (e.g. dustbin, football).</p> <p>To read words that they have spelt.</p> <p>To take part in the process of segmenting spoken words into phonemes before choosing graphemes to represent those phonemes.</p> | <p>To spell more words with contracted forms, e.g. can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, I'll.</p> <p>To learn the possessive singular apostrophe (e.g. the girl's book).</p> <p>To write, from memory, simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far.</p> <p>To segment spoken words into phonemes and to then represent all of the phonemes using graphemes in the right order for both for single-syllable and multi-syllabic words.</p> <p>To self-correct misspellings of words that pupils have been taught to spell (this may require support to recognise misspellings).</p> | <p>To spell some more complex homophones and near-homophones, including here/hear, brake/break and mail/ male.</p> <p>To use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary</p> | <p>To spell words that use the possessive apostrophe with plural words, including irregular plurals (e.g. girls', boys', babies', children's, men's, mice's).</p> <p>To use their spelling knowledge to use a dictionary more efficiently.</p> | <p>To spell complex homophones and near-homophones, including who's/whose and stationary/stationery.</p> <p>To use the first three or four letters of a word to check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary</p> | <p>To spell homophones and near homophones that include nouns that end in -ce/-cy and verbs that end in -se/-sy (e.g. practice/ practise, licence/license, advice/advise).</p> <p>To spell words that contain hyphens (e.g. co-ordinate, re-enter, co-operate, co-own).</p> <p>To use a knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that the spelling of some words needs to be learnt specifically.</p> <p>To use dictionaries and thesauruses to check the spelling and meaning of words and confidently find synonyms and antonyms.</p> |

**Statutory Words**

I go come want up you day was look are the of we this  
dog me like going big she and they my see on away mum  
it at play no yes for a dad can he am all is cat get said  
to in

the a do to today of said says your they be  
he me she we no come some one once ask  
friend school put are were was is his has I  
you go so by my here there where love  
push pull full house our door poor find  
mind floor because kind behind whole any  
child wild most both children climb only old  
many clothes cold gold hold told every  
great break steak busy people pretty  
beautiful after fast last past father

accident(ally) actual(ly) address answer  
appear arrive believe bicycle breath  
breathe build busy/business calendar  
caught centre century certain circle  
complete consider continue decide  
describe different difficult disappear  
early earth eight/eighth enough exercise  
experience experiment extreme famous  
favourite February forward(s) fruit  
grammar group guard guide heard heart  
height history imagine increase important  
interest island knowledge learn length  
library material medicine mention minute  
natural naughty notice occasion(ally)  
often opposite ordinary particular  
peculiar perhaps popular position  
possess(ion) possible potatoes pressure  
probably promise purpose quarter  
question recent regular reign remember  
sentence separate special straight  
strange strength suppose surprise  
therefore though/although thought  
through various weight woman/women

accommodate accompany according achieve  
aggressive amateur ancient apparent appreciate  
attached available average awkward bargain bruise  
category cemetery committee communicate  
community competition conscience\* conscious\*  
controversy convenience correspond criticise (critic  
+ ise) curiosity definite desperate determined  
develop dictionary disastrous embarrass  
environment equip (-ped, -ment) especially  
exaggerate excellent existence explanation familiar  
foreign forty frequently government guarantee  
harass hindrance identity immediate(ly) individual  
interfere interrupt language leisure lightning  
marvellous mischievous muscle necessary neighbour  
nuisance occupy occur opportunity parliament  
persuade physical prejudice privilege profession  
programme pronunciation queue recognise  
recommend relevant restaurant rhyme rhythm  
sacrifice secretary shoulder signature sincere(ly)  
soldier stomach sufficient suggest symbol system  
temperature thorough twelfth variety vegetable  
vehicle yacht