Roundwood Primary School - Parent Guide

Spelling Progression Guidance: through the Primary School from Year 1

This guidance closely follows the new curriculum Programme of Study for English for 2014. The 'Expected' column is what we are expected to teach, the other two columns are hints, tips and possible words that you could use to enhance the learning of the relevant objective.

Spelling, especially in KS1, is taught through a phonetic approach.

This moves to learning words organised by specific spelling rules. In addition, there are common exception words that do not fit with spelling patterns on each list.

It should be noted that apart from the common exception words and statutory spelling words, children are also learning the letter string, sound or spelling rule, not just the specific word.

In addition to teaching the rule/sound, children will be taught the meanings of words and how they can be used, supporting the development of their vocabulary.

Some age appropriate spelling will also be corrected in children's writing.

How can parents help?

Regular practise at home is essential. As part of their weekly homework, we would expect children to work on their spellings for 10 minutes three times a week in key stage one and for 15 minutes three times a week in key stage two. Strategies to support Spelling

Phonetic Spelling Strategies

Ask your child to listen for each sound in a word and to represent each sound with a letter or combination of letters. Take the word brush, for example. If the student can identify the individual sounds and knows the phonemes \underline{b} , \underline{r} , \underline{u} , and \underline{sh} , he will be able to spell the word easily. Hundreds of words can be written correctly simply by applying this phonetic spelling strategy.

Rule-Based Spelling Strategies

Children will quickly realise , however, that there are often several possible spellings for the same sound—the sound of /j/ can be spelled j, g or dge, for example—and that's when knowing some rules will come in handy! There are many reliable rules and generalizations in English spelling that will help students make the correct choices in their own writing. For example, knowing the rules regarding the use of \underline{c} and \underline{k} and knowing that the sound of /ch/ is usually spelled tch after a short vowel helps us write the word kitchen.

Visual Spelling Strategies

Does the word look right? Good spellers often try spelling a word several ways to see which way looks correct. Visual memory is important when it comes to correctly using homophones, too, like pray and prey or tale and tail. Reading and word games such as scrabble, crosswords and bananagrams will also help your child build visual memory.

Morphemic Spelling Strategies

Morphemic strategies are based on the knowledge of how the meaning of a word influences its spelling. Older children will learn words with Greek and Latin roots and words based on other derivatives, how to add prefixes and suffixes to base words, and how to form compound words and abbreviations.

As spellers become more competent, they will usually use a combination of all four strategies in their writing. Most people don't even realize that they are using these approaches to spelling—with practise, the strategies become automatic and are employed on a subconscious level.

More Spelling Strategies

In addition to these four main spelling strategies there are other strategies that good spellers may use for a small number of words.

- Look up words in an electronic spell checker or dictionary to verify the spelling. Use the spell checker on the computer.
- When reading, be on the lookout for unfamiliar words and make a mental note of the spelling.
- Recognise which words are "tricky" and identify the tricky parts.
- Use mnemonics, a memory device that helps you remember something. Some common spelling mnemonics include a friend is there to the end, it is definite, and piece of pie. While we don't encourage kids to overuse this strategy, mnemonics can be helpful for remembering Rule Breakers and tricky words. If the device is overused, it becomes difficult to remember all of the mnemonics, which defeats the purpose!
- Keep a personal resource list of words your child tends to misspell and use the list as a reference while writing

Please see links on the website for fun ideas to practise spelling at home.

Year Group	Expected	Spelling pattern, rule or tip	Word suggestions
Year 1 Revision of Reception work	 Revise all letters of the alphabet, and the sounds they commonly represent Revise consonant digraphs Revise vowel digraphs which have been taught Revise the process of segmenting words Revise words with adjacent consonants 		
Year 1	Statutory: • These vowel digraphs and trigraphs: • ai, oi, ay, oy, a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, ar, ee, ea, er, ir, ur, oo, oo, oa, oe, ou, ow, ue, ew, ie, igh, or, ore, aw, au air, ear, are	Digraphs ai and oi are not used at the end of English words. ay and oy are used at the ends of words and the end of syllables	rain, wait, oil, join, day, play, boy, toy, made, came, these, theme, five, ride, home, those, June, rule, car, start, see tree, sea, dream, head, bread, her, term, better, under, girl, bird, turn, hurt, food, pool, book, took, boat, coat, toe, goes, now, how, blue, clue, new, few, lie, tie, chief, field, high, night, for, short, more, score, saw, draw, author, August, air, fair, dear, hear, bear, pear, bare (See POS for further suggestions.)
	The sounds f, l, s, k spelt ff, ll, ss, zz, and ck	These sounds are usually spelt with double letters if they follow a single vowel in short words. Exceptions: if, pal, us, bus yes.	off, well, miss, buzz, back

• nk		bank, think, honk, sunk
-tchv phoneme at the end of words	Most English words add an e after the v	catch, fetch kitchen have, live, give
 division of words into syllables 	Each syllable is like a beat in the spoken word. Words of more than one syllable often have an unstressed syllable in which the vowel sound is unclear.	pocket, rabbit, carrot, thunder, sunset
 adding s and es, either as plural nouns or third person singular of verbs 	If the ending sounds like 's' or 'z', it is spelt as —s. If the ending sounds like 'iz' and forms an extra beat, it is spelt as —es.	cats, dogs, rocks, catches
 adding -ing, -ed and -er to verbs where the root word doesn't change adding -er and -est to adjectives where the root word doesn't change 	-ing and -er always add an extra syllable, -ed sometimes does If the adjective ends in two consonant letters (same or different), the ending is simply added on.	hunting, hunted, hunter, buzzing, buzzed, buzzer, jumping, jumped, jumper grander, grandest, fresher, freshest, quicker, quickest
 Words ending -y Consonant spellings ph and wh 	ph is unusual in short everyday words e.g. fat, fill, fun	very, happy, party, family dolphin, alphabet, phonics, elephant, when, where, which, wheel, while
Using k for the k soundPrefix un	un is added to the beginning of the word without any change to the root word.	Kent, sketch, kit, frisky unhappy, undo, unfair
Compound words	Two words joined together, spelt the same way as if on their own.	football, playground, bedroom, blackberry

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	Common exception words (tricky words / red words)	Look at grapheme /phoneme correspondences which do/do not fit in with what has been taught so far.	the, a, do, today, of, said, says, are, were, was, is, his, has, I, you, your, they, be, he, me, she, we, no, go, so, by, my, here, there, where, love, come, some, one, once, ask, friend, school, put, push, pull, full, house, our
Year 2	Revision from Year 1. Phonic knowledge continues to underpin spelling, but morphology becomes important, as pupils begin to learn about root words and suffixes. Show the relationship between the meaning and spelling of words.	Revise previously taught GPCs, when introducing new ones. Many words will contain both.	
	• dge or ge phoneme at the ends of words	The letter j is never used for the 'dge' sound at the ends of English words; dge is usually used after short vowels. We usually use a g before e,i and y. We always use j before a, o and u.	badge, edge, bridge age, huge, change gem, giant, magic jacket, jar, jog, join, jump
	• s phoneme, spelt 'c' (soft c)		race, ice, cell, city, fancy
	• n phoneme, spelt 'kn' and 'gn'	The k and g at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago.	knock, know, knee gnat, gnaw
	• r phoneme, spelt 'wr'	Also reflects old pronunciation	write, wrong, wrap, wrote
	I phoneme, spelt 'le' at the ends of words	-le is the most common spelling for this sound at the ends of words.	table, apple, bottle, little
	• I phoneme, spelt 'el'	Less common than — le. Used after m,n,r,s,v,w and often s.	camel, tunnel, squirrel, travel, towel, tinsel
	• I phoneme, spelt 'al'	A few nouns and several adjectives.	metal, pedal, hospital, animal

		final, special, critical,
• Words ending 'il'		nostril, pencil, fossil
• -y (long `i' phoneme) at the ends of words	The most common spelling for this sound at the ends of words.	cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July
 adding -es to nouns and verbs ending in -y 	Change the y to an i before adding -es	flies, tries, babies, carries
 adding -ed, -ing, -er and -est to a root word ending in -y with a consonant before it. 	Change the y to an i before adding the suffix, except for -ing. The only ordinary words with 'ii' are skiing and taxiing.	copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied, but copying, crying skiing, taxiing,
 adding -ing, -ed, -er – est and -y to words ending in -e, with a consonant before it. 	Drop the -e at the end of the root word before -ing , -ed , -er , -est , -y or any other suffix beginning with a	hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny
 adding -ing, -ed, -er, - est and -y to words of one syllable, ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter. the or phoneme, spelt a 	vowel. The exception is being . Double the last consonant letter of the root word, to keep the vowel short. Exception : the letter x is never	patting, humming, dropped, sadder, fattest, runny
 the short u phoneme, spelt o the phoneme made by the grapheme -ey 	doubled: mixing, boxer, sixes	always, all, ball, walk, talk other, mother brother, nothing, Monday key, donkey, monkey,
 the phoneme (short o) spelt a, after the letters w and qu 	The plural of these words is formed by adding -s e.g. donkeys, monkeys.	want, watch, wander, quantity, squash
 the phoneme spelt or after w the phoneme spelt ar after w 	a is the most common spelling for the 'short o' sound, after w and qu	word, work, worm, world

the rare phoneme spelt 's' in some words (see list)		war, warm, towards
 suffixes -ment, -ness, -ful, -less and -ly 		treasure, television, usual
Contractions	If a suffix starts with a consonant, it is usually simply added on. Exceptions: 1) argument 2) Root words ending in -y, if the root has more than one syllable e.g.	enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness, badly
 Contractions 	merriment, happiness, plentiful, penniless, happily	
Possessive apostrophe – singular nouns	In contractions, the apostrophe shows the letter/s which have been omitted e.g. can't – cannot	can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, I'll
• -tion	When the owner is singular, the apostrophe is placed before the s.	Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's
 Homophones and near- homophones 		station, fiction, motion, national, section
 Common exception words (tricky words) 	It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones.	there/their/they're, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight
	Some words are exceptions in some accents but not in others, e.g. past, bath	door, floor, poor because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should,

			would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas
Yrs 3 &4	The new Programme Of Study links Years 3 & 4 together. This guidance has split requirements into suggested yearly coverage, which should be adapted to suit pupil ability.	Increasingly, pupils need to understand the role of morphology and etymology , and to understand the link between meaning and spelling, where relevant.	
Year 3	Revision of Year 2 coverage. Most children will need to revise and consolidate these important, basic conventions, as they form part of everyday language. Homophones will need revision throughout lower KS2. Use end of KS1 teacher assessments of spelling against the POS, to identify where to begin in Year 3.		
	• Adding suffixes beginning with vowels (to words of more than one syllable) • The short u phoneme,	If the last syllable is stressed and ends with one consonant (which has one preceding vowel) the final consonant is doubled e.g. forgetting	forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, preferred
	spelt ou • Prefixes dis, mis, in, super, anti	Add most prefixes to the root without changing the spelling.	trouble, country
		Like un- , the prefixes dis- and mis- have negative meanings.	disappoint, disagree, disobey misbehave, mislead, misspell
	• Suffix -ation	super- means above anti- means against	supermarket, superman anti-clockwise, antiseptic information, adoration, sensation, preparation
	• Suffix - ly	-ation is added to	sadly, usually, finally,

	verbs to make nouns	completely
	-ly is added to an adjective to make an adverb As -ly starts with a consonant, usually simply add to the root word.	happily, angrily
 Words with endings as in treasure 	Exceptions: If the root ends in — y (with a consonant letter before it) change the y to i. If the root ends with —le, change it to —	gently, simply, humbly, nobly treasure, measure,
Words with endings as in	ly.	pleasure, enclosure
pic ture	Always spelt -sure	picture, creature, furniture, nature, adventure
 Words with endings — tion, —sion and —ssion 	Can be confused with words like teacher or richer .	invention, injection, action, hesitation,
	Clues about whether to put t , s or ss before the suffix — ion often come from the last letter/s of	tension, expansion, comprehension, expression, discussion, permission, admission
	the root wordtion is the most common.	possession permission
 Words with the 'ay' phoneme, spelt ei, eigh 	-ssion is used if the root ends in ss or mit.	extend – extension
or ey • Possessive apostrophe	-sion is used if the root ends in d or se .	vein, weigh, weight, eight, neighbour, they, obey
with plural words (Revise apostrophe with singular owners first.)		girls', boys', babies', donkeys'
Extend known homophones or near- homophones	Place the apostrophe after the plural form of the word, e.g. babies' Exceptions: see Year 4	berry/bury, brake/break, fair/fare, grate/great, groan/grown, here/hear, heel/heal/he'll, knot/not, mail/male, main/mane, meat/meet, missed/mist, peace/piece, plain/plane/

	Further contractions (not included in new POS)	Extend range of contractions from Year 2. See right.	rain/rein/reign, weather/whether, whose/who's haven't, won't, shouldn't, shan't, could've, would've, you'll, he'll, she'll, they'll, we'll
Year 4	Revision of Year 3 objectives throughout lower KS2. Extend and develop to Year 4 coverage below, as appropriate.		
	Adding suffixes beginning with vowels (to words of more than one syllable)	If the last syllable is stressed and ends with one consonant (which has one preceding vowel) the final consonant is doubled e.g.	(Revise: beginning, forgetting)
		forgetting: however, the consonant is not doubled if the syllable is unstressed, e.g. gardener	gardening, gardener, limiting, limited, limitation
	 The short 'i' phoneme spelt y in the middle of words. 		myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery
	 Prefixes in-, il-, im-, ir, re- sub-, inter- and auto 	in- means both 'not' and 'in/into'. Before a root starting	incorrect, inactive illegal, illegible
		with I , in - beomes iI . Before a root starting with m or p , in - becomes im -	immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect
		Before a root starting with r , in - becomes ir -	irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible redo, refresh, return,
		re- means again or back	reappear, redecorate submarine, subheading
		sub- means under auto- means self or	autobiography, autograph, automatic

	own	
• Suffix — ly	Revise: the suffix -ly begins with a consonant, so usually it is added straight onto a root word. New: 3 rd exception (see year 3 for others): If the root ends with -ic , then add -ally rather than just -ly, (except in the word publicly.)	completely, finally basically, frantically, dramatically
 Words with ending -sion (hard sound - e.g. television) 		division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television
• Suffix –ous	Sometimes the root word is obvious, e.g. poisonous . Sometimes there is no obvious root word e.g. tremendous .	poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, famous, various tremendous, enormous, jealous
	 -our is changed to -or before adding -ous Keep the final e when using a soft g. 	humorous, glamorous, vigorous courageous, outrageous
	If there is a short i sound before the suffix -ous, it is usually spelt with an i, but a few words have e.	serious, obvious, curious hideous, spontaneous, courteous
• Words ending with –cian	-cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs. (Note how many of these words show professions.)	musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician
 Words with the k phoneme, spelt ch Words with the sh phoneme, but spelt ch Words with the hard g phoneme, spelt gue 		scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character chef, chalet, machine, brochure league, colleague,
priorieme, speit gue		catalogue

	Other words spelt gue		
			tongue
	Words with the k phoneme, spelt que	French in origin.	antique, unique, clique
	Revise possessive apostrophe for singular and plural words.	Revise: when the owner is singular, the apostrophe is placed before the s. Revise: when the owner is plural, the apostrophe is placed after the s.	Sarah's, Mr Black's squirrels' tails; girls' toilet
	Possessive apostrophe for irregular plural words.	New: some owners are considered as a collective group, as if they were a single body. In this case, the apostrophe goes before the s, as with singular owners,	children's, men's, women's, firemen's, policemen's, mice's
	Further homophones or near-homophones	e.g. children's. Singular proper nouns ending in an s use the 's suffix, e.g. Cyprus's Continue to revise homophones from Year 3	Cyprus's, Chris's, James's (Can also be written Chris' or James' – not in POS) accept/except, affect/effect, ball/bawl, medal/meddle, scene/seen,
Yrs 5 & 6	The new Programme Of Study links Years 5 & 6 together. This guidance has split requirements into suggested yearly coverage, which should be adapted to suit pupil ability. Some pupils in Year 5 will be able to access Year 6 work immediately.		
Year 5	Revise spellings from previous years. Assess children against the POS for Years 3&4 in order to ascertain starting points.		
	Statutory: • Words ending with — cious or —tious	If the root ends in —ce, then the — cious ending is	vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious,

	common, e.g. grace – gracious Exception : anxious	ambitious cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious
Words ending with —cial and —tial	-cial is common after a vowel, and – tial after a consonant, but there are some exceptions.	official, special, artificial partial, confidential, essential
	Exceptions: initial, financial, commercial, provincial	initial, commercial, provincial
Words ending with —ant, -ance, -ancy, -ent, - ence, -ency	Use —ant, -ance and —ancy if there is a related word with the long a phoneme (see words in column right).	observant, observance, (observation) expectant (expectation) hesitant, hesitancy (hesitation) tolerant, tolerance (toleration) substance (substantial)
	Use -ent, -ence and -ency after a soft c , soft g or qu	innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence
 Use of the hyphen 	Exceptions: there are many words, however, where the above guidelines don't help. These words just have to be learnt. Pronouncing the words artificially, in the way they are spelt, can help children to	assistant, assistance, obedient, obedient, independent, independence
	remember. Hyphens can be used to join a prefix to a root, especially if the prefix ends in a	co-ordinate, re-enter, co- operate, co-own
Words with the long e (ee) phoneme, spelt ei after c	vowel and the root also begins with one e.g. co-ordinate . Common rule: 'i before e , except	deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling

	Words containing ough	after c ′, where the sound is spelt by ei . However, there are Exceptions : protein, caffeine, seize, neither One of the trickiest spellings. Can be used to spell a number of sounds.	ought, bought, thought rough, tough, enough though, although, dough through through plough
	 Words with letters which are not sounded Further homophones or near-homophones 	Some 'silent' letters used to be sounded many years ago, e.g. knight In these pairs of words, nouns end -ce and verbs end -se e.g. advice (noun) but advise (verb)	doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight advice/advise, device/devise practice/practise, aloud/allowed farther/further/father, guessed/guest, heard/herd, led/lead, past/passed cereal/serial steal/steel who's/whose
		who's is a contraction of who is or who has; whose means belonging to someone	
Year 6	Revision of Year 3, 4 and 5 objectives. Extend and develop to Year 6 coverage below, as appropriate. Statutory: Words ending in -able	-able and -ably	adorable/adorably
	and -ible; -ably and - ibly	endings are far more common than — ible/-ibly. -ible is common if a complete root cannot be heard	applicable/applicably considerable/considerably tolerable/tolerably possible, horrible, terrible, visible, incredible
		Exception : sensible When adding —able	change/changeable

	to a word ending with –ce or –ge , keep the e .	notice/noticeable (but force/forcible and legible)
	-able is common if a complete root can be heard before it, e.g. depend dependable	dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable
	(Not in POS) Some words can be spelt two ways, e.g. loveable, lovable	
 Adding suffixes to words ending with —fer 	Double the r if the -fer is still stressed when the ending is added.	referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred
	Do not double the r if the -fer is no longer stressed.	reference, referee, preference, transference
Further use of the hyphen (not part of statutory POS)	Use a hyphen with compound adjectives, to show that they are not a list of separate adjectives, e.g. littleused car, rather than little, used car.	little-used, square-based, blue-eyed, bad-tempered
Further homophones and near-homophones	In these pairs of words, nouns end —ce and verbs end —se e.g. advice (noun) but advise (verb)	licence/license, prophecy/prophesy (See Yr 5 for more.)
		aisle/isle altar/alter ascent/assent bridal/bridle morning/mourning wary/weary profit/prophet
	affect: usually a verb e.g. The weather may affect our plans. effect: usually a noun e.g. It may have an effect on our	affect/effect
	plans. principle: basic	principle, principal

	truth or belief principal: adjective most important noun – important person, such as principal of a college	
	stationary: not moving stationery: paper etc	stationary, stationery

See also the Word List for Years 3 and 4, and the Word List for Years 5 and 6.