



KS2 Spelling Policy

Last Reviewed	May 2023	Next Review	May 2024

Rationale

Spelling is a statutory element of the National Curriculum 2014. Spelling rules, word families and common exceptions should all be taught. This is best done through a consistent, systematic approach which builds on the phonic teaching that has been in place for a number of years.

The National Curriculum provides a comprehensive list of spelling rules, families and exceptions to be taught when and in which order.

Spelling in Key Stage 2 will be taught for at least 60 minutes per week. This may be in a block or as shorter, daily sessions.

Teachers have high expectations for spelling in all curriculum areas. They model good spelling knowledge and encourage children to discuss the spelling and etymology or new vocabulary or topic-based language. The marking policy reflects these high expectations for spelling and children are supported in editing and correcting spelling errors. Classes have non-negotiable spelling word lists which are based on the national curriculum expectations for common exception words and high frequency words. This is to support both reading and writing progress.

There will be a group of children who will need to have phonics as an intervention in the early part of Key Stage 2 but it should be the aim that the majority of children will be taught at age related expectations as soon as possible.

Organisation

Following the success of phonics teaching in Ks1, spelling will be taught regularly, in short daily sessions or in longer blocked sessions.

Over a week the sessions will incorporate a range of teaching strategies including short spelling tests, direct teaching of spelling rules, opportunities to practise spelling in a variety of ways and spelling related home learning activities.

Spelling Shed is an accredited spelling scheme which includes high quality teaching resources, long term planning and interactive teaching ideas. Teachers use this scheme to plan spelling for the children in their class or group. Spellings from the scheme are sent home weekly and tested using dictation-based spelling tests. This is to give the children opportunity to embed their spelling learning in context and to practise other transcription skills such as handwriting.

Resources

All children and teachers have access to Spelling Shed. This includes an online spelling platform which allows teachers to set lists, includes resources for teaching spelling patterns and gives comprehensive assessments on how children perform on the game.

Children with Dyslexia, Dyslexic Tendencies or any other consistent difficulty with spelling, have access to Nessy Spelling to support earlier spelling teaching and learning. This can be accessed via the Kindle tablets in each classroom and can be used independently during whole class spelling teaching, which may be at an inappropriate level for these children.

Assessment

Spelling is assessed as part of the whole school writing level descriptors. Discrete spelling assessments are also utilised from the Spelling Shed scheme and these are used to inform planning, teaching and learning. Teachers have a good working knowledge of the spelling curriculum for the age and abilities they teach and use assessment for learning strategies to support children in lessons.

For children with SEND, programmes such as Clicker 8 can be used to support the spelling of new vocabulary or topic-based words. Children have access to voice recognition software on tablets to check the spelling of words during lessons.