

Spelling Guide

We believe in setting strong foundations in spelling. We want our pupils to secure a wide vocabulary and be able to spell new words by effectively applying the spelling patterns and rules they learn throughout their time at school.

To achieve this, we follow the Spelling Shed spelling scheme, which is a comprehensive scheme for Years 1 -6. The scheme sets out a logical progression and sequence for each year group to follow, in line with the National Curriculum. Each week, there is a spelling focus and an associated list of words for the children to study. The word lists include statutory learning focuses, including common exception words and high frequency words embedded across the terms.

Children have the opportunity to engage with exciting online quizzes and activities to practise their weekly spellings through Spelling Shed. Spelling Shed offers fun and interactive learning that our pupils can access to support them with their weekly spelling lists.

Each week, children are introduced to the new spelling rule in class. The rule is investigated and taught, and the meaning of new vocabulary is discussed. These words are displayed in class on a spelling display and are referred to throughout the week, alongside any other words the children are working on, to support their spelling as they write.

Follow up lessons and activities are planned across the week to ensure children have ample opportunities to learn and practise their spellings in a variety of contexts including:

- Handwriting
- Studying words classes (noun, verb, adjective etc.)
- Wordsearches and crosswords
- Creating rhymes and mnemonics for spellings
- Spelling bingo
- Dictionary work
- Thesaurus work – finding synonyms
- Alphabetical order
- Define the word/guess the word
- Word association (e.g. devastate, devastating, devastation)
- Find and correct the error
- Unscramble tasks
- Sentence writing
- A weekly dictation

In addition to spelling lessons, teachers frequently model the writing and editing process across the curriculum and use every writing opportunity to revise spelling rules. In KS1, spelling is taught each day within Read Write Inc sessions.

Children complete a weekly spelling test and dictation activities to support assessment. Each half term, within the scheme, there is a built-in assessment week to ensure children have sufficient opportunities to consolidate their newly built spelling knowledge. Children who need additional support with spelling receive a variety of interventions that are tailored to address their gaps.

Children are encouraged to practise their spellings in creative ways and to share ideas on how to remember spellings. Here are some ideas:



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Colour

1. *Look, say, cover, write, check* **b e l i e v e**
2. *Trace, copy and replicate*
3. *Word shapes (this can support handwriting – ascenders and descenders)* **b _ l _ _ v _**
4. *Writing in sand, paint, clay, chalk etc.*
5. *Syllables/chunks – Breaking the word into parts and clapping the sounds.*
6. *Look for the small words inside the word.*
7. *Drawing an image around the word to make it memorable.*
8. *Blue vowels (write words with vowels in blue) or no vowels*
9. *Pyramid words*
10. *Fancy letters* **bubble** **b e l i e v e**
11. *Rainbow words*
12. *Speed spelling – How many times can you write the word correctly in one minute?*
13. *Bubble writing*
14. *Saying the word in a funny way, e.g. knee (say k –nee), city (say 'sity') etc. to make it memorable.*
15. *Mnemonics*
16. *Jigsaw puzzle – reorder the mixed up letters to make your spelling word*