



Curriculum Progression Document

Subject: English - Writing

The programmes of study for writing at key stages 1 and 2 are constructed similarly to those for reading:

- transcription (spelling and handwriting)
- composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech and writing)

It is essential that teaching develops pupils' competence in these 2 dimensions. In addition, pupils should be taught how to plan, revise and evaluate their writing. These aspects of writing have been incorporated into the programmes of study for composition.

Writing down ideas fluently depends on effective transcription: that is, on spelling quickly and accurately through knowing the relationship between sounds and letters (phonics) and understanding the morphology (word structure) and orthography (spelling structure) of words. Effective composition involves articulating and communicating ideas, and then organising them coherently for a reader. This requires clarity, awareness of the audience, purpose and context, and an increasingly wide knowledge of vocabulary and grammar. Writing also depends on fluent, legible and, eventually, speedy handwriting.

Area of Subject	EYFS <i>Three and Four-Year-Olds</i> Reception <i>Early Learning Goals</i>	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Writing: Transcription							
Phonics and Spelling Rules	<i>Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; write 'm' for mummy.</i> <i>Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with the letter/s.</i> <i>Write short sentences</i>	<i>See Phonics and Spelling Progression documents.</i>	<i>See Phonics and Spelling Progression documents.</i>	<i>See Spelling Progression documents.</i>			

	<i>with words with known letter-sound correspondences using a capital letter and a full stop.</i>						
Common Exception Words	<i>To write some irregular common words.</i>	<i>To spell all Y1 common exception words correctly. To spell days of the week correctly.</i>	<i>To spell most Y1 and Y2 common exception words correctly.</i>	<i>To spell many of the Y3 and Y4 statutory spelling words correctly.</i>	<i>To spell all of the Y3 and Y4 statutory spelling words correctly.</i>	<i>To spell many of the Y5 and Y6 statutory spelling words correctly.</i>	<i>To spell all of the Y5 and Y6 statutory spelling words correctly.</i>
Prefixes and Suffixes		<i>To use -s and -es to form regular plurals correctly. To use the prefix 'un-' accurately. 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).</i>	<i>To add suffixes to spell most words correctly in their writing, e.g. -ment, -ness, -ful, -less, -ly.</i>	<i>To spell most words with the prefixes dis-, mis-, bi-, re- and de- correctly (e.g. disobey, mistreat, bicycle, reapply, defuse). 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. To spell words with added suffixes beginning with a vowel (-er/-ed/-ing) to words with</i>	<i>To 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). To form nouns with the suffix -ation (e.g. information, adoration, sensation,</i>	<i>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). To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ate (e.g. activate, motivate communicate). To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ise (e.g. criticise, advertise, capitalise). To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -ify (e.g. signify, falsify, glorify). To convert nouns or adjectives into verbs using the suffix -en (e.g.</i>	<i>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). To use their knowledge of adjectives ending in -ent to spell nouns ending in -ence/-ency (e.g. innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent,</i>

				<p>more than one syllable (unstressed last syllable, e.g. limiting offering).</p> <p>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).</p>	<p>preparation, admiration).</p> <p>To spell words with the suffix -ous with no change to root words, no definitive root word, words ending in 'y', 'our' or 'e' and the exceptions to the rule (e.g. joyous, fabulous, mysterious, rigorous, famous, advantageous).</p>	<p>blacken, brighten, flatten).</p>	<p>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>
Further Spelling Conventions		<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</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 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</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</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</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><i>graphemes to represent those phonemes.</i></p>	<p><i>To write, from memory, simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>To self-correct misspellings of words that pupils have been taught to spell (this may require support to Recognise misspellings).</i></p>	<p><i>spelling in a dictionary.</i></p>	<p><i>to use a dictionary more efficiently.</i></p>	<p><i>these in a dictionary.</i></p>	<p><i>To spell words that contain hyphens (e.g. co-ordinate, re-enter, co-operate, co-own).</i></p> <p><i>To use a knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that the spelling of some words needs to be learnt specifically.</i></p> <p><i>To use dictionaries and thesauruses to check the spelling and meaning of words and confidently find synonyms and antonyms.</i></p>
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<p>Letter Formation, Placement and Positioning</p>	<p><i>Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks. Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors. Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils. Shows a preference for a dominant hand. Write some letters accurately.</i></p> <p><i>Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons. Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor. Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.</i></p>	<p><i>To write lower case and capital letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place with a good level of consistency. To sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly. To form digits 0-9. To understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.</i></p>	<p><i>To write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters. To form lower case letters of the correct size, relative to one another. To use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.</i></p> <p><i>To begin to use the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters.</i></p>	<p><i>To use a neat, joined handwriting style with increasing accuracy and speed.</i></p> <p><i>To continue to use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and to understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined.</i></p>	<p><i>To increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [e.g. by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch].</i></p> <p><i>To confidently use diagonal and horizontal joining strokes throughout their independent writing to increase fluency.</i></p>	<p><i>To increase the speed of their handwriting so that problems with forming letters do not get in the way of writing down what they want to say. To be clear about what standard of handwriting is appropriate for a particular task, e.g. quick notes or a final handwritten version.</i></p> <p><i>To confidently use diagonal and horizontal joining strokes throughout their independent writing in a legible, fluent and speedy way.</i></p>	<p><i>To write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>-choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters;</i> <i>- choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.</i> <p><i>To recognise when to use an unjoined style (e.g. for labelling a diagram or data, writing an email address or for algebra) and capital letters (e.g. for filling in a form).</i></p>
<p>Joining Letters</p>							

	<p><i>Form lower case and capital letters correctly.</i></p> <p><i>Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases.</i></p> <p><i>Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.</i></p>						
Area of Subject	<p>EYFS</p> <p>Three and Four-Year-Olds</p> <p>Reception</p> <p>Early Learning Goals</p>	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Writing: Composition							
<p>Planning</p> <p>Writing and</p> <p>Editing</p>	<p><i>Know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story.</i></p> <p><i>Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.</i></p> <p><i>Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing.</i></p> <p><i>For example, writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of</i></p>	<p><i>To say out loud what they are going to write about.</i></p> <p><i>To compose a sentence orally before writing it.</i></p> <p><i>To sequence sentences to form short narratives.</i></p> <p><i>To discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils.</i></p>	<p><i>To write narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional).</i></p> <p><i>To write about real events. To write simple poetry.</i></p> <p><i>To plan what they are going to write about, including writing down</i></p>	<p><i>To begin to use ideas from their own reading and modelled examples to plan their writing.</i></p> <p><i>To proofread their own and others' work to check for errors (with increasing accuracy) and to make improvements.</i></p>	<p><i>To compose and rehearse sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures.</i></p> <p><i>To consistently organise their writing into paragraphs</i></p>	<p><i>To plan their writing by identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own.</i></p> <p><i>To consider, when planning narratives, how authors have</i></p>	<p><i>To note down and develop initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary.</i></p> <p><i>To use further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader (e.g. headings, bullet points, underlining).</i></p>

	<p><i>the page; write 'm' for mummy.</i></p> <p><i>Write some or all of their name.</i></p> <p><i>Write some letters accurately.</i></p> <p><i>Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment, like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Learn new vocabulary.</i></p> <p><i>Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.</i></p> <p><i>Describe events in some detail.</i></p>	<p><i>To reread their writing to check that it makes sense and to independently begin to make changes.</i></p> <p><i>To read their writing aloud clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher.</i></p> <p><i>To use adjectives to describe.</i></p>	<p><i>ideas and/or key words and new vocabulary</i></p> <p><i>To encapsulate what they want to say, sentence by sentence.</i></p> <p><i>To make simple additions, revisions and corrections to their own writing by evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupils.</i></p> <p><i>To reread to check that their writing makes sense and that the correct tense is used throughout.</i></p> <p><i>To proofread to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation (e.g. to check that the ends of sentences are punctuated correctly).</i></p>	<p><i>To begin to organise their writing into paragraphs around a theme.</i></p> <p><i>To compose and rehearse sentences orally (including dialogue).</i></p>	<p><i>around a theme to add cohesion and to aid the reader.</i></p> <p><i>To proofread consistently and amend their own and others' writing, correcting errors in grammar, punctuation and spelling and adding nouns/ pronouns for cohesion.</i></p>	<p><i>developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed.</i></p> <p><i>To proofread work to précis longer passages by removing unnecessary repetition or irrelevant details.</i></p> <p><i>To consistently link ideas across paragraphs.</i></p> <p><i>To proofread their work to assess the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and to make necessary corrections and improvements.</i></p>	<p><i>To use a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs.</i></p> <p><i>To habitually proofread for spelling and punctuation errors.</i></p> <p><i>To propose changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaning.</i></p> <p><i>To recognise how words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms and to use this knowledge to make improvements to their writing.</i></p>
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<p>Awareness of Audience, Purpose and Structure</p>	<p><i>Use a wider range of vocabulary.</i> <i>Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.</i> <i>Can start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns.</i> <i>Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."</i> <i>Learn new vocabulary.</i> <i>Use new vocabulary throughout the day.</i> <i>Describe events in some detail.</i> <i>Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities. Explain how things work and why they might happen.</i> <i>Develop social phrases.</i> <i>Use new vocabulary in different contexts.</i> <i>Participate in small</i></p>	<p><i>To use a number of simple features of different text types and to make relevant choices about subject matter and appropriate vocabulary choices.</i></p> <p><i>To start to engage readers by using adjectives to describe.</i></p>	<p><i>To write for different purposes with an awareness of an increased amount of fiction and non-fiction structures.</i> <i>To use new vocabulary from their reading, their discussions about it (one- to-one and as a whole class) and from their wider experiences.</i> <i>To read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear.</i></p>	<p><i>To demonstrate an increasing understanding of purpose and audience by discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar.</i> <i>To begin to use the structure of a wider range of text types (including the use of simple layout devices in non-fiction).</i> <i>To make deliberate ambitious word choices to add detail.</i></p> <p><i>To begin to create settings, characters and plot in narratives.</i></p>	<p><i>To write a range of narratives and non-fiction pieces using a consistent and appropriate structure (including genre-specific layout devices).</i> <i>To write a range of narratives that are well- structured and well-paced.</i> <i>To create detailed settings, characters and plot in narratives to engage the reader and to add atmosphere.</i> <i>To begin to read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and to control the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear.</i></p>	<p><i>To consistently produce sustained and accurate writing from different narrative and non-fiction genres with appropriate structure, organisation and layout devices for a range of audiences and purposes.</i> <i>To describe settings, characters and atmosphere with carefully-chosen vocabulary to enhance mood, clarify meaning and create pace.</i> <i>To regularly use dialogue to convey a character and to advance the action.</i> <i>To perform their own compositions confidently using appropriate intonation, volume and movement so that meaning is clear.</i></p>	<p><i>To write effectively for a range of purposes and audiences, selecting the appropriate form and drawing independently on what they have read as models for their own writing (including literary language, characterisation, structure, etc.).</i> <i>To distinguish between the language of speech and writing and to choose the appropriate level of formality.</i></p> <p><i>To select vocabulary and grammatical structures that reflect what the writing requires (e.g. using contracted forms in dialogues in narrative; using</i></p>
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	<p><i>group, class and one-to-one discussion, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary.</i></p> <p><i>Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.</i></p> <p><i>Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.</i></p>						<p><i>passive verbs to affect how information is presented; using modal verbs to suggest degrees of possibility).</i></p>
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Writing: Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

Sentence Construction and Tense	<p><i>Understand 'why' questions, like: 'Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?'</i></p> <p><i>Develop their communication, but may continue to have problems with irregular</i></p>	<p><i>To use simple sentence structures.</i></p>	<p><i>To use the present tense and the past tense mostly correctly and consistently.</i></p> <p><i>To form sentences with different forms:</i></p>	<p><i>To try to maintain the correct tense (including the present perfect tense) throughout a piece of writing with accurate</i></p>	<p><i>To always maintain an accurate tense throughout a piece of writing.</i></p> <p><i>To always use Standard English verb inflections accurately, e.g. 'we</i></p>	<p><i>To use a range of adverbs and modal verbs to indicate degrees of possibility, e.g. surely, perhaps, should, might, etc.</i></p>	<p><i>To ensure the consistent and correct use of tense throughout all pieces of writing, including the correct subject and verb agreement</i></p>
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	<p><i>tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'.</i></p> <p><i>Use longer sentences of four to six words</i></p> <p><i>Use new vocabulary throughout the day.</i></p> <p><i>Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.</i></p> <p><i>Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives.</i></p> <p><i>Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.</i></p> <p><i>Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including the use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions with modelling and support from the teacher.</i></p>		<p><i>statement, question, exclamation, command.</i></p> <p><i>To use some features of written Standard English.</i></p>	<p><i>subject/verb agreement.</i></p> <p><i>To use 'a' or 'an' correctly throughout a piece of writing.</i></p>	<p><i>were' rather than 'we was' and 'I did' rather than 'I done'.</i></p>	<p><i>To ensure the consistent and correct use of tense throughout all pieces of writing.</i></p>	<p><i>when using singular and plural.</i></p>
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<p>Use of Phrases and Clauses</p>	<p><i>Use longer sentences of four to six words.</i> <i>Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.</i> <i>Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives.</i> <i>Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including the use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions with modelling and support from the teacher.</i></p>	<p><i>To use the joining word (conjunction) 'and' to link ideas and sentences.</i> <i>To begin to form simple compound sentences.</i></p>	<p><i>To using co-ordination (or/and/but).</i> <i>To use some subordination (when/if/that/because).</i> <i>To use expanded noun phrases to describe and specify (e.g. the blue butterfly).</i></p>	<p><i>To use subordinate clauses, extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, and although.</i> <i>To use a range of conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to show time, place and cause.</i></p>	<p><i>To use subordinate clauses, extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, which are sometimes in varied positions within sentences.</i> <i>To expand noun phrases with the addition of ambitious modifying adjectives and prepositional phrases, e.g. the heroic soldier with an unbreakable spirit.</i> <i>To consistently choose nouns or pronouns appropriately to aid cohesion and avoid repetition, e.g. he, she, they, it.</i></p>	<p><i>To use a wide range of linking words/phrases between sentences and paragraphs to build cohesion, including time adverbials (e.g. later), place adverbials (e.g. nearby) and number (e.g. secondly).</i> <i>To use relative clauses beginning with a relative pronoun with confidence (who, which, where, when, whose, that and omitted relative pronouns), e.g. Professor Scriffle, who was a famous inventor, had made a new discovery.</i></p>	<p><i>To use the subjunctive form in formal writing.</i> <i>To use the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause.</i> <i>To use the passive voice.</i> <i>To use question tags in informal writing.</i></p>
<p>Punctuation</p>		<p><i>To use capital letters for names,</i></p>	<p><i>To use the full range of</i></p>	<p><i>To use the full range of</i></p>	<p><i>To use all of the necessary</i></p>	<p><i>To use commas consistently to</i></p>	<p><i>To use the full range of</i></p>

		<p>places, the days of the week and the personal pronoun 'I'.</p> <p>To use finger spaces.</p> <p>To use full stops to end sentences.</p> <p>To begin to use question marks and exclamation marks.</p>	<p>punctuation taught at key stage 1 mostly correctly including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks; - commas to separate lists; - apostrophes to mark singular possession and contractions. 	<p>punctuation from previous year groups.</p> <p>To punctuate direct speech accurately, including the use of inverted commas.</p>	<p>punctuation in direct speech, including a comma after the reporting clause and all end punctuation within the inverted commas.</p> <p>To consistently use apostrophes for singular and plural possession.</p>	<p>clarify meaning or to avoid ambiguity.</p> <p>To use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis.</p>	<p>punctuation taught at key stage 2 correctly, including consistent and accurate use of semi- colons, dashes, colons, hyphens, and, when necessary, to use such punctuation precisely to enhance meaning and avoid ambiguity.</p>
<p>Use of Terminology</p>		<p>To recognise and use the terms letter, capital letter, word, singular, plural, sentence, punctuation, full stop, question mark and exclamation mark.</p>	<p>To recognise and use the terms letter, capital letter, word, singular, plural, sentence, punctuation, full stop, question mark and exclamation mark.</p>	<p>To recognise and use the terms preposition, conjunction, word family, prefix, clause, subordinate clause, direct speech, consonant, consonant letter, vowel, vowel letter and inverted commas (or speech marks).</p>	<p>To recognise and use the terms determiner, pronoun, possessive pronoun and adverbial.</p>	<p>To recognise and use the terms modal verb, relative pronoun, relative clause, parenthesis, bracket, dash, cohesion and ambiguity</p>	<p>To recognise and use the terms subject, object, active, passive, synonym, antonym, ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon and bullet points.</p>

**These are detailed in the word lists within the spelling appendix to the national curriculum (English appendix 1). Teachers should refer to these to exemplify the words that pupils should be able to read as well as spell.*