

Whole school writing progression

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	Nursery	Reception	Year I	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Phonic & whole word spelling	• To begin to form recognisable letters and make meaningful marks	• write words using phonic knowledge including set I and set 2 RWI sounds. • write CVC, CVCC and CCVC words. • write some taught common exception/high frequency and familiar words. • write simple sentences made up of words with taught sounds and common exception words.	 spell words containing each of the 40+ phonemes taught spell common exception words spell the days of the week name the letters of the alphabet in order using letter names to distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound 	• segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling many correctly • learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which I or more spellings are already known, and learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones • learning to spell common exception words • distinguishing between homophones and near-homophones	• spell further homophones • spell words that are often misspelt (Appendix 1)	• spell further homophones • spell words that are often misspelt (Appendix 1)	• spell some words with 'silent' letters • continue to distinguish between homophones and other words which are often confused • use knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that the spelling of some words needs to be learnt specifically, as listed in Appendix	• spell some words with 'silent' letters • continue to distinguish between homophones and other words which are often confused • use knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that the spelling of some words needs to be learnt specifically, as listed in Appendix

Other word building spelling	• To begin to form recognisable letters and make meaningful marks	• Children to use phonic knowledge to attempt to write multisyllabic words	using the spelling rule for adding —s or —es as the plural marker for nouns and the third person singular marker for verbs using the prefix un— using —ing, —ed, —er and —est where no change is needed in the spelling of root words apply simple spelling rules and guidance from Appendix I	learning the possessive apostrophe (singular) learning to spell more words with contracted forms add suffixes to spell longer words, including —ment, —ness, —ful, —less, —ly apply spelling rules and guidelines from Appendix	use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals and in words with irregular plurals use the first 2 or 3 letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary	• use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them • place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals and in words with irregular plurals • use the first 2 or 3 letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary	 use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of words use the first 3 or 4 letters of a word to check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary 	 use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of words use the first 3 or 4 letters of a word to check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary
Transcription	• 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.	spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the letter/s. write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far.	• write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far.	• write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far.	• write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.	• write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.	• write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.	• write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.

Handwriting	• write some or all of their name. • children are encouraged to hold mark making tools correctly. • write some letters accurately	• write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed • sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly • form digits O-9	• sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly • begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place • form capital letters • form digits 0-9 • understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' and to practise these	• form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another • start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined • write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower-case letters • use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.	• use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when ad jacent to one another, are best left un-joined • increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting	• use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when ad jacent to one another, are best left un-joined • increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting	• use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined • write fluently, legibly and at speed	• use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined • write fluently, legibly and at speed
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Contexts for writing	• explore writing for a range of personal purposes (shopping lists, cards etc)	Label pictures Writing for a range of personal purposes (shopping lists, cards etc) Writing short descriptions Story writing (including retelling known stories)	 writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional) writing about real events 	 writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional) writing about real events writing poetry writing for different purposes 	• discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar	• discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar	• identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own • in writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed	identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own in writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed
Planning writing	• saying out loud what they are going to write about	 saying out loud what they are going to write about composing a sentence orally before writing it 	 saying out loud what they are going to write about composing a sentence orally before writing it 	• planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about	discussing and recording ideas composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures	discussing and recording ideas composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures	• noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary	• noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary

Drafting writing	• To begin to form recognisable letters and make meaningful marks • write some words that are familiar to them	• Form most letters correctly. • Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the letter/s. • Write short sentences with words with known letter-sound correspondences, beginning to use a capital letter and a full stop.	• sequencing sentences to form short narratives • re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense	writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence	 organising paragraphs around a theme in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices (headings & subheadings) 	 organising paragraphs around a theme in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices (headings & subheadings) 	selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning in narratives, describing settings, characters and atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey character and advance the action précising longer passages using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader	• selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning • in narratives, describing settings, characters and atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey character and advance the action • précising longer passages • using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs • using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader
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Editing writing		• re-read what they have written to check it makes sense	• discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils	evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupils rereading to check that their writing makes sense and that verbs to indicate time are used correctly and consistently, including verbs in the continuous form proofreading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation	• assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements • proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences • proofread for spelling and punctuation errors	• assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements • proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences • proofread for spelling and punctuation errors	• assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing • proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and darify meaning • ensuring the consistent and correct use of tense throughout a piece of writing • ensuring correct subject and verb agreement when using singular and plural, distinguishing between the language of speech and writing and choosing the appropriate register • proofread for spelling and punctuation errors	• assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing • proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and darify meaning • ensuring the consistent and correct use of tense throughout a piece of writing • ensuring correct subject and verb agreement when using singular and plural, distinguishing between the language of speech and writing and choosing the appropriate register • proofread for spelling and punctuation errors
Performing writing	• ascribe meaning to the marks they have made.	 read their writing aloud clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher. 	 read their writing aloud clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher. 	• read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear	• read their own writing aloud, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear.	 read their own writing aloud, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear. 	 perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear. 	 perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear.

Vocabulary	• Learn new vocabulary. • Use new vocabulary throughout the day.	• Learn new vocabulary. • Use new vocabulary throughout the day.	 leaving spaces between words joining words and joining clauses using "and" Learn new vocabulary. Use new vocabulary throughout the day. 	• expanded noun phrases to describe and specify	extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of con junctions, including when, if, because, although choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition using con junctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause (and place)	extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of con junctions, including when, if, because, although choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition using con junctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause (and place)	use a thesaurus using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility	 use a thesaurus using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility
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Grammar (edited to reflect content in Appendix 2)	• begin to connect one idea or action to another using a range of con junctions including 'and' and 'because'.	• regular plural noun suffixes (-s, -es) • verb suffixes where root word is unchanged (-ing, -ed, -er) • un- prefix to change meaning of adjectives/adverbs • to combine words to make sentences, including using and • Sequencing sentences to form short narratives • separation of words with spaces • sentence demarcation (.!?) • capital letters for names and pronoun 'I')	• sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command • the present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form • subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co-ordination (using or, and, or but) • some features of written Standard English • suffixes to form new words (-ful, -er, -ness) • sentence demarcation • commas in lists • apostrophes for omission & singular possession	• using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense • form nouns using prefixes (super-, anti-) • use the correct form of 'a' or 'an' • word families based on common words (solve, solution, dissolve, insoluble)	• using fronted adverbials • difference between plural and possessive -s • Standard English verb inflections (I did vs I done) • extended noun phrases, including with prepositions • appropriate choice of pronoun or noun to create cohesion	• using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (i.e. omitted) relative pronoun • converting nouns or adjectives into verbs • verb prefixes • devices to build cohesion, including adverbials of time, place and number	• recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including sub junctive forms • using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence • using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause • differences in informal language • synonyms & Antonyms • further cohesive devices such as grammatical connections and adverbials • use of ellipsis
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Punctuation (edited to reflect content in Appendix 2)	• To be exposed to a full stop and where it is in a sentence.	• To be familiar with a full stop and where it is in a sentence.	 beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark using a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I' 	• learning how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly, including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive (singular)	• using and punctuating direct speech (i.e. Inverted commas)	using commas after fronted adverbials indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with singular and plural nouns using and punctuating direct speech (including punctuation within and surrounding inverted commas)	 using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis 	using hyphens to avoid ambiguity using semicolons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses using a colon to introduce a list punctuating bullet points consistently
Grammatical Terminology	letter, word	letter, captial letter, word, full stop, and to be exposed to exclamation marks and question marks	letter, capital letter, word, singular, plural, sentence punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark	noun, noun phrase, statement, question, exclamation, command, compound, adjective, verb, suffix, adverb tense (past, present), apostrophe, comma	adverb, preposition con junction, word family, prefix, clause, subordinate clause, direct speech, consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter, inverted commas (or 'speech marks')	determiner, pronoun, possessive pronoun, adverbial	modal verb, relative pronoun, relative clause, parenthesis, bracket, dash, cohesion, ambiguity	sub ject, ob ject, active, passive, synonym, antonym, ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet points