

National Curriculum

September 2013

Statutory Requirements

English

Year One -Three



# All Years – Spoken Language

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge
- use relevant strategies to build their vocabulary
- articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions
- give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes, including for expressing feelings
- maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments
- use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas
- speak audibly and fluently with an increasing command of Standard English
- participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates
- gain, maintain and monitor the interest of the listener(s)
- consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others
- select and use appropriate registers for effective communication.

# Year One – Reading – Word reading

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words

respond speedily with the correct sound to graphemes (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes, including, where applicable, alternative sounds for graphemes

read accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words containing GPCs that have been taught

read common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word

read words containing taught GPCs and –s, –es, –ing, –ed, –er and –est endings

read other words of more than one syllable that contain taught GPCs

read words with contractions [for example, I'm, I'll, we'll], and understand that the apostrophe represents the omitted letter(s)

read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and that do not require them to use other strategies to work out words

re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.

# Year Two – Reading – Word reading

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words until automatic decoding has become embedded and reading is fluent
- read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the graphemes taught so far, especially recognising alternative sounds for graphemes
- read accurately words of two or more syllables that contain the same graphemes as above
- read words containing common suffixes
- read further common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word
- read most words quickly and accurately, without overt sounding and blending, when they have been frequently encountered
- read aloud books closely matched to their improving phonic knowledge, sounding out unfamiliar words accurately, automatically and without undue hesitation
- re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.

# Year Three/Four – Reading – Word reading

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology) as listed in [English Appendix 1](#), both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words they meet
- read further exception words, noting the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound, and where these occur in the word.

# Year One – Reading – Comprehension

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by:
- listening to and discussing a wide range of poems, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently
- being encouraged to link what they read or hear read to their own experiences
- becoming very familiar with key stories, fairy stories and traditional tales, retelling them and considering their particular characteristics
- recognising and joining in with predictable phrases
- learning to appreciate rhymes and poems, and to recite some by heart
- discussing word meanings, linking new meanings to those already known
- understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:
- drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
- checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading
- discussing the significance of the title and events
- making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participate in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say
- explain clearly their understanding of what is read to them.

# Year Two – Reading – Comprehension

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by:
- listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently
- discussing the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related
- becoming increasingly familiar with and retelling a wider range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales
- being introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways
- recognising simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry
- discussing and clarifying the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary
- discussing their favourite words and phrases
- continuing to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some, with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear
- understand both the books that they can already read accurately and fluently and those that they listen to by:
- drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
- checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading
- making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
- answering and asking questions
- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say
- explain and discuss their understanding of books, poems and other material, both those that they listen to and those that they read for themselves.

# Year Three/Four – Reading – Comprehension

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by:
  - listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
  - reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
  - using dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read
  - increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally
  - identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books
- 
- preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
  - discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
  - recognising some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry]
  - understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
  - checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context
  - asking questions to improve their understanding of a text
  - drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
  - predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
  - identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
  - identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning
  - retrieve and record information from non-fiction
  - participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say.

# Year One – Writing – transcription

## Statutory requirements

### Spelling (see [English Appendix 1](#))

Pupils should be taught to:

- spell:
  - words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught
  - common exception words
  - the days of the week
- 
- name the letters of the alphabet:
  - naming the letters of the alphabet in order
  - using letter names to distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound
  - add prefixes and suffixes:
  - 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 [for example, helping, helped, helper, eating, quicker, quickest]
  - apply simple spelling rules and guidance, as listed in [English Appendix 1](#)
  - write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far.

# Year Two – Writing – transcription

## Statutory requirements

### Spelling (see [English Appendix 1](#))

Pupils should be taught to:

- spell by:
- segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling many correctly
- learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known, and learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones
- learning to spell common exception words
- learning to spell more words with contracted forms
- learning the possessive apostrophe (singular) [for example, the girl's book]
- distinguishing between homophones and near-homophones
- add suffixes to spell longer words, including –ment, –ness, –ful, –less, –ly
- apply spelling rules and guidance, as listed in [English Appendix 1](#)
- write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far.

# Year three/Four – Writing – transcription

## Statutory requirements

### Spelling (see [English Appendix 1](#))

Pupils should be taught to:

- use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them (English Appendix 1)
- spell further homophones
- spell words that are often misspelt (English Appendix 1)
- place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words with irregular plurals [for example, children's]
- use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary
- write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.

# Year One – Writing – Handwriting

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- 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' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

# Year Two – Writing – Handwriting

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- 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.

# Year Three/Four – Writing – Handwriting

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined
- increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, 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].

# Year One – Writing – Composition

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- write sentences by:
- saying out loud what they are going to write about
- composing a sentence orally before writing it
- sequencing sentences to form short narratives
- re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense
- discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils
- read aloud their writing clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher.

# Year Two – Writing – Composition

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop positive attitudes towards and stamina for writing by:
- writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional)
- writing about real events
- writing poetry
- writing for different purposes
- consider what they are going to write before beginning by:
- planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about
- writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary
- encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence
- make simple additions, revisions and corrections to their own writing by:
- evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupils
- re-reading to check that their writing makes sense and that verbs to indicate time are used correctly and consistently, including verbs in the continuous form
- proof-reading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation [for example, ends of sentences punctuated correctly]
- read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear.

# Year Three/Four – Writing – Composition

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- plan their writing by:
- discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar
- discussing and recording ideas
- draft and write by:
- composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures ([English Appendix 2](#))
- organising paragraphs around a theme
- in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot
- in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings]
- evaluate and edit by:
- 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
- proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
- read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear.

# Year One – Writing – Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop their understanding of the concepts set out in [English Appendix 2](#) by:
- leaving spaces between words
- joining words and joining clauses using and
- 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 the grammar for year 1 in English Appendix 2
- use the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 in discussing their writing.

# Year Two – Writing – Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop their understanding of the concepts set out in [English Appendix 2](#) by:
- learning how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly (see English Appendix 2), including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive (singular)
- learn how to use:
  - sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command
  - expanded noun phrases to describe and specify [for example, the blue butterfly]
  - 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)
- the grammar for year 2 in English Appendix 2
- some features of written Standard English
- use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 in discussing their writing.

# Year Three/Four – Writing – Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

## Statutory requirements

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop their understanding of the concepts set out in [English Appendix 2](#) by:
- extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although
- using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense
- choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause
- using fronted adverbials
- learning the grammar for years 3 and 4 in English Appendix 2
- indicate grammatical and other features by:
  - using commas after fronted adverbials
  - indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns
  - using and punctuating direct speech
- use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading.

# Appendix 1 - Spelling – Year One - Revision of Reception Work

## Statutory requirements

The boundary between revision of work covered in Reception and the introduction of new work may vary according to the programme used, but basic revision should include:

- all letters of the alphabet and the sounds which they most commonly represent
- consonant digraphs which have been taught and the sounds which they represent
- vowel digraphs which have been taught and the sounds which they represent
- the process of segmenting spoken words into sounds before choosing graphemes to represent the sounds
- words with adjacent consonants
- guidance and rules which have been taught

## Statutory requirements

The sounds /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ spelt ff, ll, ss, zz and ck

The /ŋ/ sound spelt n before k

Division of words into syllables

## Statutory requirements

-tch

The /v/ sound at the end of words

Adding s and es to words (plural of nouns and the third person singular of verbs)

Adding the endings –ing, –ed and –er to verbs where no change is needed to the root word

Adding –er and –est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word

# Appendix 1 – Spelling – Year One

Vowel digraphs and trigraphs
ai, oi
ay, oy
a–e
e–e
i–e
o–e
u–e
ar
ee
ea (/i:/)
ea (/ɛ/)
er (/ɜ:/)
er (/ə/)
ir
ur

Statutory requirements
Words ending –y (/i:/ or /ɪ/)
New consonant spellings ph and wh
Using k for the /k/ sound
Adding the prefix –un
Compound words
Common exception words

Vowel digraphs and trigraphs
oo (/u:/)
oo (/ʊ/)
oa
oe
ou
ow (/aʊ/)
ow (/əʊ/)
ue
ew
ie (/aɪ/)
ie (/i:/)
igh
or
ore
aw
au
air
ear
ear (/ɛə/)
are (/ɛə/)

# Appendix 1 – Spelling – Year Two

Statutory requirements
The /dʒ/ sound spelt as ge and dge at the end of words, and sometimes spelt as g elsewhere in words before e, i and y
The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y
The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words
The /r/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt –le at the end of words

The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt –el at the end of words
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt –al at the end of words
Words ending –il
The /aɪ/ sound spelt –y at the end of words
Adding –es to nouns and verbs ending in –y
Adding –ed, –ing, –er and –est to a root word ending in –y with a consonant before it
Adding the endings –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words ending in –e with a consonant before it
Adding –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before l and ll
The /ʌ/ sound spelt o

# Appendix 1 - Spelling – Year Two

Statutory requirements
The /i:/ sound spelt –ey
The /ɒ/ sound spelt a after w and qu
The /ɜ:/ sound spelt or after w
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w
The /ʒ/ sound spelt s
The suffixes –ment, –ness, –ful , –less and –ly
Contractions
The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)
Words ending in –tion

Statutory requirements
Homophones and near-homophones
Common exception words

# Appendix 1 - Spelling – Year Three/Four

Statutory requirements
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable
The /ɪ/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words
The /ʌ/ sound spelt ou
More prefixes

The suffix –ation
The suffix –ly

Words with endings sounding like /ʒə/ or /tʃə/
Endings which sound like /ʒən/
The suffix –ous

# Appendix 1 - Spelling – Year Three/Four

Statutory requirements
Endings which sound like /ʃən/, spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian
Words with the /k/ sound spelt ch (Greek in origin)
Words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt ch (mostly French in origin)
Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt –gue and the /k/ sound spelt –que (French in origin)
Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)
Words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey

Statutory requirements
Possessive apostrophe with plural words
Homophones and near-homophones

## Appendix 1 - Spelling – Word List – Year Three/Four

accident(ally)	eight/eighth	material	remember
actual(ly)	enough	medicine	sentence
address	exercise	mention	separate
answer	experience	minute	special
appear	experiment	natural	straight
arrive	extreme	naughty	strange
believe	famous	notice	strength
bicycle	favourite	occasion(ally)	suppose
breath	February	often	surprise
breathe	forward(s)	opposite	therefore
build	fruit	ordinary	though/although
busy/business	grammar	particular	thought
calendar	group	peculiar	through
caught	guard	perhaps	various
centre	guide	popular	weight
century	heard	position	woman/women
certain	heart	possess(ion)	
circle	height	possible	
complete	history	potatoes	
consider	imagine	pressure	
continue	increase	probably	
decide	important	promise	
describe	interest	purpose	
different	island	quarter	
difficult	knowledge	question	
disappear	learn	recent	
early	length	regular	
earth	library	reign	

# Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation – Year One

Year 1: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
<b>Word</b>	Regular <b>plural noun suffixes</b> –s or –es [for example, <i>dog, dogs; wish, wishes</i> ], including the effects of these suffixes on the meaning of the noun  <b>Suffixes</b> that can be added to <b>verbs</b> where no change is needed in the spelling of root words (e.g. <i>helping, helped, helper</i> )  How the <b>prefix un–</b> changes the meaning of <b>verbs</b> and <b>adjectives</b> [negation, for example, <i>unkind, or undoing: untie the boat</i> ]
<b>Sentence</b>	How <b>words</b> can combine to make <b>sentences</b> Joining <b>words</b> and joining <b>clauses</b> using <i>and</i>
<b>Text</b>	Sequencing <b>sentences</b> to form short narratives
<b>Punctuation</b>	Separation of <b>words</b> with spaces Introduction to capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate <b>sentences</b> Capital letters for names and for the personal <b>pronoun I</b>
<b>Terminology for pupils</b>	letter, capital letter word, singular, plural sentence punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark

# Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation – Year Two

Year 2: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
<b>Word</b>	<p>Formation of <b>nouns</b> using <b>suffixes</b> such as <i>-ness</i>, <i>-er</i> and by compounding [for example, <i>whiteboard</i>, <i>superman</i>]</p> <p>Formation of <b>adjectives</b> using <b>suffixes</b> such as <i>-ful</i>, <i>-less</i></p> <p>(A fuller list of <b>suffixes</b> can be found on page <a href="#">57</a> in the year 2 spelling section in English Appendix 1)</p> <p>Use of the <b>suffixes</b> <i>-er</i>, <i>-est</i> in <b>adjectives</b> and the use of <i>-ly</i> in Standard English to turn adjectives into <b>adverbs</b></p>
<b>Sentence</b>	<p><b>Subordination</b> (using <i>when</i>, <i>if</i>, <i>that</i>, <i>because</i>) and <b>co-ordination</b> (using <i>or</i>, <i>and</i>, <i>but</i>)</p> <p>Expanded <b>noun phrases</b> for description and specification [for example, <i>the blue butterfly</i>, <i>plain flour</i>, <i>the man in the moon</i>]</p> <p><b>How the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command</b></p>
<b>Text</b>	<p>Correct choice and consistent use of <b>present tense</b> and <b>past tense</b> throughout writing</p> <p>Use of the <b>progressive</b> form of <b>verbs</b> in the <b>present</b> and <b>past tense</b> to mark actions in progress [for example, <i>she is drumming</i>, <i>he was shouting</i>]</p>
<b>Punctuation</b>	<p>Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate <b>sentences</b></p> <p>Commas to separate items in a list</p> <p><b>Apostrophes</b> to mark where letters are missing in spelling and to mark singular possession in nouns [for example, <i>the girl's name</i>]</p>
<b>Terminology for pupils</b>	<p>noun, noun phrase</p> <p>statement, question, exclamation, command,</p> <p>compound, adjective, verb,</p> <p>suffix</p> <p>adverb</p> <p>tense (past, present)</p> <p>apostrophe, comma</p>

# Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation – Year Three

Year 3: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
<b>Word</b>	<p>Formation of <b>nouns</b> using a range of <b>prefixes</b> [for example <i>super-</i>, <i>anti-</i>, <i>auto-</i>]</p> <p>Use of the <b>forms</b> <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether the next <b>word</b> begins with a <b>consonant</b> or a <b>vowel</b> [for example, <u>a</u> rock, <u>an</u> open box]</p> <p><b>Word families</b> based on common <b>words</b>, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, <i>solve</i>, <i>solution</i>, <i>solver</i>, <i>dissolve</i>, <i>insoluble</i>]</p>
<b>Sentence</b>	<p>Expressing time, place and cause using <b>conjunctions</b> [for example, <i>when</i>, <i>before</i>, <i>after</i>, <i>while</i>, <i>so</i>, <i>because</i>], <b>adverbs</b> [for example, <i>then</i>, <i>next</i>, <i>soon</i>, <i>therefore</i>], or <b>prepositions</b> [for example, <i>before</i>, <i>after</i>, <i>during</i>, <i>in</i>, <i>because of</i>]</p>
<b>Text</b>	<p>Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material</p> <p>Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation</p> <p>Use of the <b>present perfect</b> form of <b>verbs</b> instead of the simple past [for example, <i>He has gone out to play</i> contrasted with <i>He went out to play</i>]</p>
<b>Punctuation</b>	<p>Introduction to inverted commas to <b>punctuate</b> direct speech</p>
<b>Terminology for pupils</b>	<p>adverb, preposition conjunction</p> <p>word family, prefix</p> <p>clause, subordinate clause</p> <p>direct speech</p> <p>consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter</p> <p>inverted commas (or 'speech marks')</p>