

KS1 / KS2 Writing Progression

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Phonics and whole	☐ Words containing	□Segmenting	☐ Spell further	☐ Spell further	□Spell some	☐ Spell some
word spelling	each of the 40+	spoken words	homophones	homophones	words with	words with
	phonemes taught	into phonemes	☐ Spell words that	☐ Spell words that	'silent' letters	'silent' letter
	☐ Common	and representing	are often	are often	☐ continue to	\square continue to
	exception words	these by	misspelt	misspelt	distinguish	distinguish
	\square The days of the	graphemes,			between	between
	week	spelling many			homophones	homophones
	☐ Name the letters	correctly.			and other words	and other words
	of the alphabet in	☐ Learning new			which are often	which are often
	order	ways of spelling			confused	confused
	☐ Using letter names	phonemes for			☐ Use knowledge	☐ Use knowledge
	to distinguish	which 1 or more			of morphology	of morphology
	between	spellings are			and etymology	and etymology
	alternative	already known,			in spelling and	in spelling and
	spellings of the	and learn some			understand that	understand that
		words with each			the spelling of	the spelling of
		spelling,			some words	some words
		including a few			needs to be	needs to be
		common			learnt	learnt
		homophones			specifically	specifically
		☐ Learning to spell				
		common				
		exception words				
		☐ Distinguishing				
		between				
		homophones				
		and near				
		homophones				

Prefixes, suffixes	☐ Using the spelling	☐ Learning the	☐ Use further	☐ Use further	☐Use further	☐Use further
and other spelling	rule for adding – s	possessive	prefixes and	prefixes and	prefixes and	prefixes and
strategies	or –es as the	apostrophe	suffixes and	suffixes and	suffixes and	suffixes and
Strategies	plural marker for	(singular).	understand how	understand how	understand the	understand the
	nouns and the	☐ Learning to spell	to add them.	to add them.	guidance for	guidance for
	third person	more words with	☐ Place the	☐ Place the	adding them.	adding them.
	singular marker	contracted	possessive	possessive	☐ Use dictionaries	☐ Use dictionaries
	for verbs.	forms.	apostrophe	apostrophe	to check the	to check the
	☐ Using the prefix	☐ Add suffixes to	accurately in	accurately in	spelling and meaning	spelling and meaning
	un– to change the	spell longer words,	words with regular	words with regular	of	of
	meaning of	including	plurals	plurals	words.	words.
	adjectives/adverbs	-ment, -ness, -	and in words	and in words	☐ Use the first 3 or	☐ Use the first 3 or
	☐ Using –ing, –ed, –	ful, –less, –ly.	with irregular	with irregular	4 letters of a	4 letters of a
	er and –est where	☐ Apply spelling	plurals.	plurals.	word to check	word to check
	no change is	rules.	☐ Use the first 2 or	☐ Use the first 2 or	spelling,	spelling,
	needed in the		3 letters of a	3 letters of a	meaning or both	meaning or both
	spelling of root		word to check its	word to check its	of these in a	of these in a
	words.		spelling in a	spelling in a	dictionary	dictionary
	☐ Apply simple		dictionary	dictionary		
	spelling rules.					
Transcription	☐ Write simple	☐ Write simple	☐ Write from	☐ Write from		
	sentences dictated	sentences	memory simple	memory simple		
	by the teacher	dictated by the	sentences,	sentences,		
	that include words	teacher that	dictated by the	dictated by the		
	using the GPCs	include words	teacher, that	teacher, that		
	and common	using the GPCs,	include words	include words		
	exception words	common	and punctuation	and punctuation		
	taught so far	exception words	taught so far.	taught so far.		
		and punctuation				
		taught so far				
Handwriting /	☐ Sit correctly at a	☐ Form lower-case	☐ Use the diagonal	☐ Use the diagonal	☐ Choosing which	☐ Choosing which
Presentation	table, holding a	letters of the	and horizontal	and horizontal	shape of a letter	shape of a letter
	pencil comfortably	correct size	strokes that are	strokes that are	to use when	to use when
	and correctly	relative to one	needed to join	needed to join	given choices	given choices
	begin to form	another.	letters and	letters and	and deciding	and deciding
	lower-case letters	☐ Start using some	understand	understand	whether or not	whether or not

int	the correct	of the diagonal	which letters,	which letters,	to join specific	to join specific
	rection, starting	and horizontal	when adjacent	when adjacent	letters.	letters.
	nd finishing in	strokes needed	to one another,	to one another,	☐ Choosing the	☐ Choosing the
	e right place.	to join letters	are best left	are best left	writing	writing
		and understand	unjoined.	unjoined.	implement that	O .
	Leaving spaces		•	-	•	implement that
	etween words.	which letters,	☐ Increase the	☐ Increase the	is best suited for	is best suited for
	Form capital	when adjacent	legibility,	legibility,	a task	a task
	tters form digits	to one another,	consistency and	consistency and		
	9 understand	are best left un	quality of their	quality of their		
	hich letters	joined write	handwriting	handwriting		
	elong to which	capital letters				
	ndwriting	and digits of the				
	amilies' and to	correct size,				
pra	actise these	orientation and				
		relationship to				
		one another and				
		to lower-case letters				
		use spacing between				
		words that				
		reflects the size of				
		the letters.				
Contexts for writing		☐ Writing	☐ Discussing	☐ Discussing	☐ Identifying the	☐ Identifying the
		narratives about	writing similar to	writing similar to	audience for and	audience for and
		personal	that which they	that which they	purpose of the	purpose of the
		experiences and	are planning to	are planning to	writing, selecting	writing, selecting
		those of others	write in order to	write in order to	the appropriate	the appropriate
		(real and	understand and	understand and	form and using	form and using
		fictional)	learn from its	learn from its	other similar	other similar
		☐ Writing about	structure,	structure,	writing as	writing as
		real events	vocabulary and	vocabulary and	models for their	models for their
		☐ Writing poetry	grammar	grammar	own.	own.
		☐ Writing for			☐ In writing	☐ In writing
		different			narratives,	narratives,
		purposes			considering how	considering how
					authors have	authors have
					developed	developed

Planning writing	☐ 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.	characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed Noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary.	characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed Noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary.
Drafting Writing	☐ 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,	☐ Organising paragraphs around a theme. ☐ In narratives, creating settings, characters and plot. ☐ In non-narrative, using simple	☐ Selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning. ☐ In narratives,	☐ Selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning. ☐ In narratives,

			using	organisational	describing	describing
			simple	devices.	settings,	settings,
			organisational		characters and	characters and
			devices		atmosphere	atmosphere
			(headings &		and integrating	and integrating
			subheadings)		dialogue to	dialogue to
					convey	convey
					character and	character and
					advance the	advance the
					action précising	action précising
					longer	longer
					passages.	passages.
					☐ Using a wide	☐ Using a wide
					range of	range of
					devices to build	devices to build
					cohesion within	cohesion within
					and across	and across
					paragraphs.	paragraphs.
					☐ Using further	☐ Using further
					organisational	organisational
					and	and
					presentational	presentational
					devices to	devices to
					structure text	structure text
					and to guide	and to guide
					the reader	the reader
Editing writing	☐ Discuss what	☐ Evaluating their	☐ Assessing the	☐ Assessing the	\square Assessing the	☐ Assessing the
	they have	writing with the	effectiveness of	effectiveness of	effectiveness of	effectiveness of
	written with	teacher and	their own and	their own and	their own and	their own and
	the teacher or	other pupils.	others' writing	others' writing	others' writing	others' writing
	other pupils	☐ Rereading to	and suggesting	and suggesting	☐ Proposing	☐ Proposing
		check that their	improvements.	improvements.	changes to	changes to
		writing makes	□ Proposing	□ Proposing	vocabulary,	vocabulary,

	sense and that	changes to	shanges to	arammar and	arammar and
		changes to	changes to	grammar and	grammar and
	verbs to	grammar and	grammar and	punctuation to	punctuation to
	indicate time	vocabulary to	vocabulary to	enhance	enhance
	are used	improve	improve	effects and	effects and
	correctly and	consistency,	consistency,	clarify	clarify
	consistently,	including the	including the	meaning.	meaning.
	including verbs	accurate use of	accurate use of	☐ Ensuring the	☐ Ensuring the
	in the	pronouns in	pronouns in	consistent and	consistent and
	continuous	sentences.	sentences.	correct use of	correct use of
	form.	$\ \square$ Proofread for	☐ Proofread for	tense	tense
	☐ Proofreading to	spelling and	spelling and	throughout a	throughout a
	check for errors	punctuation	punctuation	piece of	piece of
	in spelling,	errors	errors	writing.	writing.
	grammar and			☐ Ensuring	☐ Ensuring
	punctuation			correct subject	correct subject
	•			and verb	and verb
				agreement	agreement
				when using	when using
				singular and	singular and
				plural,	plural,
				distinguishing	distinguishing
				between the	between the
				language of	language of
				speech and	speech and
				writing and	writing and
				choosing the	choosing the
				appropriate	appropriate
				register.	register.
				☐ Proofread for	☐ Proofread for
				spelling and	spelling and
				punctuation	punctuation
				•	'
				errors	errors

Performing writing	☐ 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	☐ Joining words and joining clauses using "and"	☐ Using expanded noun phrases to describe and specify	□ Extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although. □ Choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition □ Using conjunctions, 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 conjunctions, including when, if, because, although. □ Choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition	☐ Use a thesaurus to enrich vocabulary choices. ☐ Use expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely. ☐ Using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility	☐ Use a thesaurus to enrich vocabulary choices. ☐ Use expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely. ☐ Using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility
Grammar	☐ To combine words to make sentences, including using 'and' ☐ Demarcation (.!?) capital letters for names and pronoun 'I')	☐ To combine words to make sentences, including using 'and' ☐ Demarcation (.!?) capital letters for names and pronoun 'I')	☐ 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'. ☐ Understand word	☐ Using fronted adverbials. ☐ Difference between plural and possesive —s ☐ Use standard English verb inflections (I did vs I done). ☐ Use extended	☐ Using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause ☐ Using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied	□ Recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms using passive verbs to affect the presentation of

			families based on common words (solve, solution, dissolve, insoluble)	noun phrases, including with prepositions Use appropriate choice of pronoun or noun to create cohesion	relative pronoun. Converting nouns or adjectives into verbs/ verb prefixes. Using devices to build cohesion, including adverbials of time, place and number	information in a sentence. Using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause. Differences in informal and formal language synonyms & Antonyms. Use further cohesive devices such as grammatical connections and adverbials. Use of ellipsis
Punctuation	□ 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
Grammar Terminology	☐ Letter, capital letter, word, singular, plural, sentence punctuation, full stop, question	☐ Noun, noun phrase, statement, question, exclamation, command, compound,	☐ Adverb, preposition conjunction, word family, prefix, clause, subordinate	Determiner, pronoun, possessive pronoun, adverbial	☐ Modal verb, relative pronoun, relative clause, parenthesis, bracket, dash, cohesion,	☐ Subject, object, active, passive, synonym, antonym, ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet

	mark, exclamation	adjective, verb,	clause, direct	ambiguity	points
	mark	suffix , adverb	speech, consonant,		
		tense (past,	consonant letter		
		present),	vowel, vowel		
		apostrophe,	letter, inverted		
		comma	commas (or		
			'speech marks')		