



ESF Progression of Writing Skills / Knowledge – Years 1-6



	Year 1	Year 2	Years 3 and 4	Years 5 and 6
Phonic and whole word spelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words containing each of the 40+ phonemes taught • Common exception words • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling many correctly • Learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which 1 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spell further homophones • Spell words that are often misspelt • Spell words that sound like shun – sion tion ssion cian • Add suffix ous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
Other word building spelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them un dis re mis pre in im il ir sub inter suoer anti auto • Add suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable • Use the first 2 or 3 letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them – cious and cial ance and ence able and ible add suffixes with vowel sounds to words ending fer • 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 prefixes using hyphen
Transcription	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far. 	
Handwriting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly • Begin to form lower-case 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters • Choosing the writing implement that is best



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	<p>letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form capital letters • Form digits 0-9 • Understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' and to practise these 	<p>and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left un-joined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>un-joined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting 	<p>suited for a task</p>
Contexts for writing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional) • Writing about real events • Writing poetry • Writing for different purposes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar considering purpose and audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form • In writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed
Planning writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saying out loud what they are going to write about • Composing a sentence orally before writing it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary
Drafting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequencing sentences to form short narratives • Re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary • Encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising paragraphs around a theme • In narratives, creating settings, characters and plot considering audience and purpose • In non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Accurately précisising longer passages • Using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs



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				<ul style="list-style-type: none">Using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader (Headings, bullet points, underlining, tables, subheadings, columns)
Editing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupilsRereading to check that their writing makes sense and that verbs to indicate time are used correctly and consistently, including verbs in the continuous formProofreading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvementsProposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences, expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbialsProofread for spelling and punctuation errors full stops, capital letters, question and exclamation marks, commas for lists, the use of apostrophe for possession, speech punctuation and use of comma for fronted adverbial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writingProposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaningEnsuring the consistent and correct use of tense throughout a piece of writingEnsuring correct subject and verb agreement when using singular and plural, distinguishing between the language of speech and writing and choosing the appropriate registerProofread for spelling and punctuation errors
Performing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read their writing aloud clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leaving spaces between wordsJoining words and joining clauses using "and"	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Expanded noun phrases to describe and specify	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, althoughUsing conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and spaceChoosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use a thesaurus with confidenceUsing expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information conciselyUsing modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regular plural noun suffixes (-s, -es)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">sentences with different forms: statement, question,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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') 	<p>exclamation, command</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form • Subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and coordination (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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form nouns using prefixes (ly) • 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 	<p>and cause</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (ie 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 subjunctive 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 and formal language • Synonyms & antonyms • Further cohesive devices such as grammatical connections and adverbials • Use of ellipsis
<p>Punctuation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using and punctuating direct speech (i.e. Inverted commas) • Use apostrophes • Using commas after fronted adverbials • Indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with singular and plural nouns • Using and punctuating direct speech 	



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			(including punctuation within and surrounding inverted commas)	
Grammatical terminology	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 conjunction, 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 subject, object, active, passive, synonym, antonym, ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet points