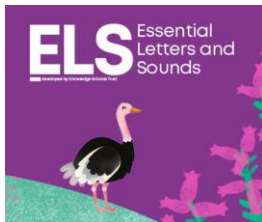




How is spelling taught at Sherborne Abbey CofE Primary School?

At Sherborne Abbey CE Primary, our approach to spelling is carefully designed to provide a coherent and consistent journey from early phonics through to advanced word knowledge. We have deliberately selected programmes that align in their principles, language and teaching approaches, ensuring that pupils experience a seamless progression as they develop as confident spellers.



In Key Stage 1, children begin with **ELS phonics**, where they build secure foundations in sound-letter correspondences and early spelling patterns. This strong phonics knowledge is then extended in Year 2 through **Essential Spelling**, which reinforces and deepens understanding while introducing children to broader patterns, rules and strategies.

From Key Stage 2, this progression continues through **Essential Spelling and Word Knowledge**, where the focus develops beyond simple spelling rules into a richer understanding of how words work. Pupils explore morphology, including prefixes, suffixes and root words, alongside spelling patterns and etymology. Units are carefully sequenced to revisit and build on prior learning, for example through the systematic teaching of suffixes (such as *-ly*, *-ous*, *-ation*) and prefixes (such as *re-*, *dis-*, *inter-*), alongside the study of word families and letter strings.

This research-informed progression ensures consistency in teaching routines and language across year groups, helping pupils to make meaningful connections in their learning. As a result, children develop not only accuracy in spelling, but also a deeper understanding of vocabulary, enabling them to become more confident, fluent writers.

Below you will find our progression maps for spelling once children complete our ELS phonics programme:

Year 2 Progression Essential Spelling programme

Term-by-term progression

Year 2/Primary 3: Autumn 1							
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6 CWs	Week 7
Day 1	Vowels and consonants	Spellings of /igh/	/j/ spelled <g>	/n/ spelled <kn>	/ee/ spelled <ey>	/or/ spelled <oor>	/u/ spelled <o>
Day 2	Spellings of /ai/	Spellings of /oa/	/j/ spelled <ge>	/n/ spelled <gn>	/s/ spelled <c>	Common Words: because, most	/o/ spelled <a>
Day 3	Spellings of /ee/	Spellings of /y)oo/	/j/ spelled <dge>	/r/ spelled <wr>	/l/ spelled <il>	/igh/ spelled <i>	/or/ spelled <a>/<al>

Year 2/Primary 3: Autumn 2							
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3 Review	Week 4 Review	Week 5 Review	Week 6 CWs	Week 7 Review
Day 1	/zh/ spelled <s>	/ur/ spelled <or>	/j/ spelled <g>	/j/ spelled <ge>	/u/ spelled <o>	/oo/ spelled <o>	/j/ spelled <dge>
Day 2	/zh/ spelled <si>	/or/ spelled <ar>	/n/ spelled <gn>	/n/ spelled <kn>	/zh/ spelled <s> or <si>	/h/ spelled <wh>	/o/ spelled <a>
Day 3	Homophones	Homophones	/s/ spelled <c>	/ee/ spelled <ey>	/r/ spelled <wr>	/ai/ spelled <ea>	/or/ spelled <a>/<al>

Year 2/Primary 3: Spring 1						
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6 CWs
Day 1	/l/ spelled <el>	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -ed /id/	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -er	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -y	Homophones	/oa/ spelled <o>
Day 2	/l/ spelled <le>	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -ed /t/	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -er	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -est	Homophones	/e/ and /ee/ spelled <e>
Day 3	/l/ spelled <al>	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -ed /d/	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -er	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -ing	Homophones	/oa/ spelled <o>

Year 2/Primary 3: Spring 2						
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Day 1	Apostrophes for contraction	Drop <e> and add suffix -ing	Drop <e> and add suffix -ed /id/	Drop <e> and add suffix -er	Drop <e> and add suffix -y	-tion endings
Day 2	Apostrophes for contraction	Drop <e> and add suffix -ing	Drop <e> and add suffix -ed /t/	Drop <e> and add suffix -er	Drop <e> and add suffix -est	Common Words: people, busy, water
Day 3	Apostrophes for possession	Drop <e> and add suffix -ing	Drop <e> and add suffix -ed /d/	Drop <e> and add suffix -er	<a> spelled /ar/ and other Common Words	Common Words: would, should, could /oo/ spelled <oul>

Year 2/Primary 3: Summer 1						
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6 CWs
Day 1	How suffixes affect the verb	Suffix -ly with no change to the root word	Suffix -ful with no change to the root word	Suffix -less with no change to the root word	Adding -ly after another suffix (-ful/-less)	Suffix -ness after adding -ful/-less
Day 2	Suffix -ment with no change to the root word	Suffix -ly with no change to the root word	Suffix -ful with no change to the root word	Suffix -less with no change to the root word	Adding -ly after another suffix (-ful/-less)	Suffix -ness with no change to the root word
Day 3	Suffix -ment with no change to the root word	Suffix -ly with no change to the root word	Suffix -ful with no change to the root word	Suffix -less with no change to the root word	Adding -ly after another suffix (-ful/-less)	Suffix -ness with no change to the root word

Year 2/Primary 3: Summer 2							
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5 CWs	Week 6 CWs	Week 7
Day 1	<y> spelling /igh/ or /ee/	Plurals where dropping <y> add an <i> add -es	Comparatives vs superlatives	Doubling consonants of CVC words when adding a suffix -y	Common Words: sugar, eye, again	Review any previously taught content to ensure children have additional practice where required.	
Day 2	Drop the <y>, add an <i> add -ed Where <y> is spelling /igh/	Drop the <y> add an <i> add -es Where <y> is spelling /igh/	Drop the <y> add an <i> add -er	Where root word has a doubled consonant and added <y> drop the <y> add an <i> add -er	Common Words: any, many, beautiful, hour		
Day 3	Drop the <y>, add an <i> add -ed Where <y> is spelling /ee/	Drop the <y> add an <i> add -es Where <y> is spelling /ee/	Drop the <y> add an <i> add -est	Where root word has a doubled consonant and added <y> drop the <y> add an <i> add -est	Common Words: parents, sure, clothes		

Key Stage 2 - Essential spelling and word knowledge programme

Progression

Year 3 / Primary 4

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Week 1	Introduction: jump, move	Suffix: -ous	Suffix: -th	Suffixes: -ion, -ian	Prefixes: in-, im-, il-, ir-	cycle
Week 2	Suffix: -ly	Suffix: -ation	Prefixes: re-, auto-, anti-	ough letter string	hap	eigh, ei, ey, aigh letter strings
Week 3	busy	medic	Prefixes: mis-, dis-, dif-	ear letter string	Possessive plurals	augh letter string
Week 4	Suffix: -ward	history	Prefix: inter-	ere letter string	letter y as /i/	Homophones
Week 5	possess	vary	quest	Prefixes: sub-, super-, sur-	ou letter string	extreme
Week 6	Plurals	Suffix: -ure	press		cert	

Progression

Year 4 / Primary 5

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Week 1	Introduction: sent, heal	know	gram	Prefix: pro-	reg	pose
Week 2	scribe	cent	letter c and letter string sc as /s/	Prefixes: ad-, ap-, ar-	ord	cas
Week 3	act	centre	ch letter string	Prefixes: con-, com-	spec	pecu
Week 4	note	cid	gue and que letter strings	min	image	Suffixes: -ar, -er
Week 5	favour	nat	The extra u	breath	pare	Additional morphemes: libr, land, oft, mater, fruit
Week 6	exper	lieve	Double consonants		popul	

Progression

Year 5 / Primary 6

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Week 1	Introduction: fruit, struct	Prefixes: sym-, sys-	fin	Hyphens	Prefix: com-	Prefix: ex-
Week 2	Prefix: inter-	cret	Prefix: pro-	que letter string	commun	Prefix: ex-
Week 3	family	Suffix: -ous	cogn	velop	gest	Words ending -rass
Week 4	divide	temper	port (meaning carry)	ident	Prefixes: contra-, contro-	Additional morphemes: equip, age, bargain
Week 5	ough letter string	cess	port (meaning harbour)	Prefixes: con-, cor-	cord	Additional morphemes: neighbour, physic, shoulder
Week 6	c and sc as /s/	sper	spect		store/staur	

Progression

Year 6 / Primary 7

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Week 1	Introduction: ward, light	preci	crit	Prefixes: oc-, op-	ei letter string	judice
Week 2	termine	fic	dict	Prefixes: ag-, ap-, at-	Suffixes: -ant/-ance, -ent/-ence	Prefixes: cata-, cate-
Week 3	hind	par	fer	ie letter string	Suffix: -ous	am
Week 4	sci	sol	vary	Silent letters b, h and ch	Suffix: -ial	parl
Week 5	medi	sacr	leg	Silent letters g, k and n	Suffixes: -able, -ible	Numbers
Week 6	sign	Homophones	Words containing ua and ui		cure	