

**All Saints' COE Primary School
Year 2 English Curriculum**

By the beginning of year 2, pupils should be able to read all common graphemes. They should be able to read unfamiliar words containing these graphemes, accurately and without undue hesitation, by sounding them out in books that are matched closely to each pupil's level of word reading knowledge. They should also be able to read many common words containing GPCs taught so far [for example, shout, hand, stop, or dream], without needing to blend the sounds out loud first. Pupils' reading of common exception words [for example, you, could, many, or people], should be secure. Pupils will increase their fluency by being able to read these words easily and automatically. Finally, pupils should be able to retell some familiar stories that have been read to and discussed with them or that they have acted out during year 1.

During year 2, teachers should continue to focus on establishing pupils' accurate and speedy word reading skills. They should also make sure that pupils listen to and discuss a wide range of stories, poems, plays and information books; this should include whole books. The sooner that pupils can read well and do so frequently, the sooner they will be able to increase their vocabulary, comprehension and their knowledge across the wider curriculum.

In writing, pupils at the beginning of year 2 should be able to compose individual sentences orally and then write them down. They should be able to spell correctly many of the words covered in year 1. They should also be able to make phonically plausible attempts to spell words they have not yet learnt. Finally, they should be able to form individual letters correctly, so establishing good handwriting habits from the beginning.

It is important to recognise that pupils begin to meet extra challenges in terms of spelling during year 2. Increasingly, they should learn that there is not always an obvious connection between the way a word is said and the way it is spelt. Variations include different ways of spelling the same sound, the use of so-called silent letters and groups of letters in some words and, sometimes, spelling that has become separated from the way that words are now pronounced, such as the 'le' ending in table. Pupils' motor skills also need to be sufficiently advanced for them to write down ideas that they may be able to compose orally. In addition, writing is intrinsically harder than reading: pupils are likely to be able to read and understand more complex writing (in terms of its vocabulary and structure) than they are capable of producing themselves.

For pupils who do not have the phonic knowledge and skills they need for year 2, teachers should use the year 1 programmes of study for word reading and spelling so that pupils' word reading skills catch up. However, teachers should use the year 2 programme of study for comprehension so that these pupils hear and talk about new books, poems, other writing, and vocabulary with the rest of the class.

Spoken Language (1-6)

- 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
 - understand how to take turns and when and how to participate constructively in conversations and debates.
 - 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

Reading in Year 2



Word Reading

- 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 GPCs as above
- read words containing common suffixes
- read further common exception words, noting unusual correspondence between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word
- read most words quickly and accurately when they have been frequently encountered without overt sounding and blending
- 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.

Pupils should revise and consolidate the GPCs and the common exception words taught in year 1. When pupils are taught how to read longer words, they should be shown syllable boundaries and how to read each syllable separately before they combine them to read the word. Pupils should be taught how to read suffixes by building on the root words that they have already learnt. The whole suffix should be taught as well as the letters that make it up. Pupils who are still at the early stages of learning to read should have ample practice in reading books that are closely matched to their developing phonic knowledge and knowledge of common exception words. As soon as the decoding of most regular words and common exception words is embedded fully, the range of books that pupils can read independently will expand rapidly. Pupils should have opportunities to exercise choice in selecting books and be taught how to do so.

Comprehension

- develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read and understanding by:
 - listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of poetry (including contemporary and classic), stories/non-fiction at a level beyond that which they can read
 - 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 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.

Pupils should be encouraged to read all the words in a sentence accurately, so that their understanding of what they read is not hindered by imprecise decoding [for example, by reading 'place' instead of 'palace']. Pupils should monitor what they read, checking that the word they have decoded fits in with what else they have read and makes sense in the context of what they already know about the topic. The meaning of new words should be explained to pupils within the context of what they are reading, and they should be encouraged to use morphology (such as prefixes) to work out unknown words. Pupils should learn about cause and effect in both narrative and non-fiction (for example, what has prompted a character's behaviour in a story; why certain dates are commemorated annually). 'Thinking aloud' when reading to pupils may help them to understand what skilled readers do. Discussion should be demonstrated to pupils. They should be guided to participate in it and they should be helped to consider the opinions of others. They should receive feedback on their discussions.



Writing in Year 2

Transcription (spelling)

Spell by:

- segmenting 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
- distinguishing between homophones and near-homophones

Handwriting

- 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.

Pupils should revise and practise correct letter formation frequently. They should be taught to write with a joined style as soon as they can form letters securely with the correct orientation.



- add suffixes to spell longer words, e.g. *–ment, –ness, –ful* and *–less*
- apply spelling rules and guidelines, as listed in **Spelling Y2**
- write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words and punctuation taught so far.

In year 2, pupils move towards more word-specific knowledge of spelling, including homophones. The process of spelling should be emphasised: that is, that spelling involves segmenting spoken words into phonemes and then representing all the phonemes by graphemes in the right order. Pupils should do this both for single-syllable and multi-syllabic words. At this stage children’s spelling should be phonically plausible, even if not always correct. Misspellings of words that pupils have been taught to spell should be corrected; other misspelt words can be used as an opportunity to teach pupils about alternative ways of representing those sounds. Pupils should be encouraged to apply their knowledge of suffixes from their word reading to their spelling. They should also draw from and apply their growing knowledge of word and spelling structure, as well as their knowledge of root words.

Composition

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.

Reading and listening to whole books, not simply extracts, helps pupils to increase their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge, including their knowledge of the vocabulary and grammar of Standard English. These activities also help them to understand how different types of writing, including narratives, are structured. All these can be drawn on for their writing. Pupils should understand, through being shown these, the skills and processes essential to writing: that is, thinking aloud as they collect ideas, drafting, and re-reading to check their meaning is clear. Pupils might draw on and use new vocabulary from their reading, their discussions about it (one-to-one and as a whole class) and from their wider experiences.

Vocab, Grammar, Punctuation for Year 2

- develop their understanding of the concepts set out in VGP Yr 2
 - learning how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly (see below), including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive (singular)
- use and understand the grammatical terminology outlined below in discussing their writing
- 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)
 - some features of written Standard English



Word structure	Sentence structure	Text structure	Punctuation	Terminology for pupils
<p>Formation of nouns using suffixes such as <i>-ness, -er</i></p> <p>Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as <i>-ful, -less</i> (A fuller list of suffixes can be found in Spelling Year 2)</p> <p>Use of the suffixes <i>-er</i> and <i>-est</i> to form comparisons of adjectives and adverbs</p>	<p>Subordination (using <i>when, if, that, or because</i>) and co-ordination (using <i>or, and, or but</i>)</p> <p>Expanded noun phrases for description and specification (e.g. <i>the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon</i>)</p> <p>Sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command</p>	<p>Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing</p> <p>Use of the continuous form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress (e.g. <i>she is drumming, he was shouting</i>)</p>	<p>Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences</p> <p>Commas to separate items in a list</p> <p>Apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling</p>	<p>verb, tense (past, present), adjective, noun, suffix, apostrophe, comma</p>



Spelling for Year 2

As words with new GPCs are introduced, many previously-taught GPCs can be revised at the same time as these words will usually contain them.

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
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	<p>The letter j is never used for the /dʒ/ sound at the end of English words.</p> <p>At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt -dge straight after the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/, /ʌ/ and /ʊ/ sounds (sometimes called 'short' vowels).</p> <p>After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as -ge at the end of a word.</p> <p>In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and y. The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o & u.</p>	<p>badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge</p> <p>age, huge, change, charge, bulge, village</p> <p>gem, giant, magic, giraffe, energy</p> <p>jacket, jar, jog, join, adjust</p>
The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y		race, ice, cell, city, fancy
The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words	The 'k' and 'g' at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago.	knock, know, knee, gnat, gnaw
The /r/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words	This spelling probably also reflects an old pronunciation.	write, written, wrote, wrong, wrap
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -le at the end of words	The -le spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	table, apple, bottle, little, middle
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -el at the end of words	<p>The -el spelling is much less common than -le.</p> <p>The -el spelling is used after m, n, r, s, v, w and more often than not after s.</p>	camel, tunnel, squirrel, travel, towel, tinsel
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt -al at the end of words	Not many nouns end in -al , but many adjectives do.	metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal
Words ending -il	There are not many of these words.	pencil, fossil, nostril
The /aɪ/ sound spelt -y at the end of words	This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July
Adding -es to nouns and verbs ending in -y	The y is changed to i before -es is added.	flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries



Adding –ed, –ing, –er and –est to a root word ending in –y with a consonant before it	The y is changed to i before –ed , –er and –est are added, but not before –ing as this would result in ii . The only ordinary words with ii are <i>skiing</i> and <i>taxiing</i> .	copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied ... but copying, crying, replying
Adding the endings –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words ending in –e with a consonant before it	The –e at the end of the root word is dropped before –ing , –ed , –er , –est , –y or any other suffix beginning with a vowel letter is added. Exception: <i>being</i> .	hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny
Adding –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter	The last consonant letter of the root word is doubled to keep the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sound (i.e. to keep the vowel ‘short’). Exception: The letter ‘x’ is never doubled: <i>mixing</i> , <i>mixed</i> , <i>boxer</i> , <i>sixes</i> .	patting, patted, humming, hummed, dropping, dropped, sadder, saddest, fatter, fattest, runner, runny
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before l and ll	The /ɔ:/ sound (‘or’) is usually spelt as a before l and ll .	all, ball, call, walk, talk, always
The /ʌ/ sound spelt o		other, mother, brother, nothing, Monday
The /i:/ sound spelt –ey	The plural of these words is formed by the addition of –s (<i>donkeys</i> , <i>monkeys</i> , etc.).	key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley
The /b/ sound spelt a after w and qu	a is the most common spelling for the /b/ (‘hqt’) sound after w and qu .	want, watch, wander, quantity, squash
The /ɜ:/ sound spelt or after w	There are not many of these words.	word, work, worm, world, worth
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w	There are not many of these words.	war, warm, towards
The /z/ sound spelt s		television, treasure, usual
The suffixes –ment, –ness, –ful, –less and –ly	If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words. Exceptions: (1) <i>argument</i> (2) root words ending in –y with a consonant before it but only if the root word has more than one syllable.	enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness (plain + ness), badly merriment, happiness, plentiful, penniless, happily
Contractions	In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. <i>can’t</i> – <i>cannot</i>). <i>It’s</i> means <i>it is</i> (e.g. <i>It’s</i> raining) or sometimes <i>it has</i> (e.g. <i>It’s</i> been raining), but <i>it’s</i> is never used for the possessive.	can’t, didn’t, hasn’t, couldn’t, it’s, I’ll
The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)		Megan’s, Ravi’s, the girl’s, the child’s, the man’s
Words ending in –tion		station, fiction, motion, national, section

