

National Curriculum 2014 Planning Document

Appendix 1

Year 2 Spelling

This document contains the Y2 Spelling appendix and should be used to support the planning, teaching and learning of Spelling in Year 2.

Spelling – work for year 2

Revision of work from year 1

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.

New work for year 2

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 /I/ or /əI/ sound spelt – le at the end of words

Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words
raies and galdance (non-statutory)	(non-statutory)
The letter j is never used for the /dʒ/ sound at	
the end of English words.	
At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt –	badge, edge, bridge, dodge,
dge straight after the $/æ/$, $/ε/$, $/I/$, $/𝔞/$, $/Λ/$ and $/𝔞/$ sounds (sometimes called 'short' vowels).	fudge
After all other sounds, whether vowels or	
consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as -ge at the	age, huge, change, charge,
end of a word.	bulge, village
In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is	
often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and	gem, giant, magic, giraffe,
y. The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o	energy
and u.	jacket, jar, jog, join, adjust
	race, ice, cell, city, fancy
The 'k' and 'g' at the beginning of these words	knock, know, knee, gnat,
was sounded hundreds of years ago.	gnaw
This spelling probably also reflects an old	write, written, wrote, wrong,
pronunciation.	wrap
The -le spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	table, apple, bottle, little, middle

Statutory requirements
The /I/ 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

Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
The -el spelling is much less common than -le . The -el spelling is used after m , n , r , s , v , w and more often than not after s .	camel, tunnel, squirrel, travel, towel, tinsel
Not many nouns end in –al, but many adjectives do.	metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal
There are not many of these words.	pencil, fossil, nostril

Statutory requirements
Statutory requirements
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 I and II
The /ʌ/ sound spelt o

Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July
The y is changed to i before –es is added.	flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries
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
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 : being.	hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny
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: mixing, mixed, boxer, sixes.	patting, patted, humming, hummed, dropping, dropped, sadder, saddest, fatter, fattest, runner, runny
The /ɔ:/ sound ('or') is usually spelt as a before I and II .	all, ball, call, walk, talk, always
	other, mother, brother, nothing, Monday

Statutory requirements
The /i:/ sound spelt –ey
The /p/ sound spelt a after w and qu
The /3:/ 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

Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
The plural of these words is formed by the addition of –s (<i>donkeys, monkeys,</i> etc.).	key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley
a is the most common spelling for the /v/ ('hot') sound after w and qu .	want, watch, wander, quantity, squash
There are not many of these words.	word, work, worm, world, worth
There are not many of these words.	war, warm, towards
	television, treasure, usual
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.	enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness (plain + ness), badly
Exceptions:	
(1) argument	
(2) root words ending in –y with a consonant	merriment, happiness,

Statutory requirements
Contractions
The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)
Words ending in –tion

Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
before it but only if the root word has more than one syllable.	plentiful, penniless, happily
In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. can't – cannot).	can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, I'll
It's means it is (e.g. It's raining) or sometimes it has (e.g. It's been raining), but it's is never used for the possessive.	
	Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's
	station, fiction, motion, national, section

Statutory requirements
Homophones and near- homophones
Common exception words

Rules and guidance (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones.	there/their/they're, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight
Some words are exceptions in some accents but not in others – e.g. past, last, fast, path and bath are not exceptions in accents where the a in these words is pronounced /æ/, as in cat. Great, break and steak are the only common words where the /eI/ sound is spelt ea.	door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children*, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas – and/or others according to programme used. Note: 'children' is not an exception to what has been taught so far but is included because of its relationship with 'child'.