



National Curriculum 2014 Planning Document

Year 3 & 4 Spelling Appendix 1

This document contains the Y3/4 Spelling appendix and should be used to support the planning, teaching and learning of Spelling in Year 3/4.

Spelling – work for years 3 and 4

Revision of work from years 1 and 2

Pay special attention to the rules for adding suffixes.

New work for years 3/4 and 4

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable	If the last syllable of a word is stressed and ends with one consonant letter which has just one vowel letter before it, the final consonant letter is doubled before any ending beginning with a vowel letter is added. The consonant letter is not doubled if the syllable is unstressed.	forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, prefer, preferred gardening, gardener, limiting, limited, limitation
The /ɪ/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	These words should be learnt as needed.	myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery
The /ʌ/ sound spelt ou	These words should be learnt as needed.	young, touch, double, trouble, country
More prefixes	Most prefixes are added to the beginning of root words without any changes in spelling, but see in- below. Like un- , the prefixes dis- and mis- have negative meanings. The prefix in- can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'.	dis- : disappoint, disagree, disobey mis- : misbehave, mislead, misspell (mis + spell) in- : inactive, incorrect
<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
	Before a root word starting with l , in- becomes il . Before a root word starting with m or p , in-	illegal, illegible immature, immortal, impossible, impatient,

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
	<p>becomes im-.</p> <p>Before a root word starting with r, in- becomes ir-.</p> <p>re- means 'again' or 'back'.</p> <p>sub- means 'under'.</p> <p>inter- means 'between' or 'among'.</p> <p>super- means 'above'.</p> <p>anti- means 'against'.</p> <p>auto- means 'self' or 'own'.</p>	<p>imperfect</p> <p>irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible</p> <p>re-: redo, refresh, return, reappear, redecorate</p> <p>sub-: subdivide, subheading, submarine, submerge</p> <p>inter-: interact, intercity, international, interrelated (inter + related)</p> <p>super-: supermarket, superman, superstar</p> <p>anti-: antiseptic, anti-clockwise, antisocial</p> <p>auto-: autobiography, autograph</p>
The suffix -ation	The suffix -ation is added to verbs to form nouns. The rules already learnt still apply.	information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration
The suffix -ly	<p>The suffix -ly is added to an adjective to form an adverb. The rules already learnt still apply.</p> <p>The suffix -ly starts with a consonant letter, so it is added straight on to most root words.</p>	sadly, completely, usually (usual + ly), finally (final + ly), comically (comical + ly)

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
	<p>Exceptions:</p> <p>(1) If the root word ends in -y with a consonant letter before it, the y is changed to i, but only if the root word has more than one syllable.</p> <p>(2) If the root word ends with -le, the -le is changed to -ly.</p> <p>(3/4) If the root word ends with -ic,</p>	<p>happily, angrily</p> <p>gently, simply, humbly, nobly</p> <p>basically, frantically,</p>

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
	<p>–ally is added rather than just –ly, except in the word <i>publicly</i>.</p> <p>(4) The words <i>truly, duly, wholly</i>.</p>	dramatically
Words with endings sounding like /ʒə/ or /tʃə/	<p>The ending sounding like /ʒə/ is always spelt –sure.</p> <p>The ending sounding like /tʃə/ is often spelt –ture, but check that the word is not a root word ending in (t)ch with an er ending – e.g. <i>teacher, catcher, richer, stretcher</i>.</p>	measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure creature, furniture, picture, nature, adventure
Endings which sound like /ʒən/	If the ending sounds like /ʒən/, it is spelt as –sion .	division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television
The suffix –ous	<p>Sometimes the root word is obvious and the usual rules apply for adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters.</p> <p>Sometimes there is no obvious root word. –our is changed to –or before –ous is added.</p> <p>A final ‘e’ of the root word must be kept if the /dʒ/ sound of ‘g’ is to be kept.</p> <p>If there is an /i:/ sound before the –ous ending, it is usually spelt as i, but a few words have e.</p>	poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, famous, various tremendous, enormous, jealous humorous, glamorous, vigorous courageous, outrageous serious, obvious, curious hideous, spontaneous, courteous

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
Endings which sound like /ʃən/, spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian	Strictly speaking, the suffixes are –ion and –ian . Clues about whether to put t , s , ss or c before these suffixes often come from the last letter or letters of the root word. –tion is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in t or te . –ssion is used if the root word ends in ss or –mit . –sion is used if the root word ends in d or se . Exceptions: <i>attend – attention, intend – intention</i> . –cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs .	invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion expression, discussion, confession, permission, admission expansion, extension, comprehension, tension musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician
Words with the /k/ sound spelt ch (Greek in origin)		scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character
Words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt ch (mostly French in origin)		chef, chalet, machine, brochure
Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt –gue and the /k/ sound spelt –que (French in origin)		league, tongue, antique, unique
Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)	In the Latin words from which these words come, the Romans probably pronounced the c and the k as two sounds rather than one – /s/ /k/.	science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent
Words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey		vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
Possessive apostrophe with plural words	The apostrophe is placed after the plural form of the word; –s is not added if the plural already ends in	girls', boys', babies', children's, men's, mice's (Note: singular proper

<i>Statutory requirements</i>	<i>Rules and guidance (non-statutory)</i>	<i>Example words (non-statutory)</i>
	–s, but <i>is</i> added if the plural does not end in –s (i.e. is an irregular plural – e.g. <i>children’s</i>).	nouns ending in an s use the ‘s’ suffix e.g. Cyprus’s population)
Homophones and near-homophones		accept/except, affect/effect, ball/bawl, berry/bury, brake/break, fair/fare, grate/great, groan/grown, here/hear, heel/heal/he’ll, knot/not, mail/male, main/mane, meat/meet, medal/meddle, missed/mist, peace/piece, plain/plane, rain/rein/reign, scene/seen, weather/whether, whose/who’s

Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Teachers should continue to emphasise to pupils the relationships between sounds and letters, even when the relationships are unusual. Once root words are learnt in this way, longer words can be spelt correctly, if the rules and guidance for adding prefixes and suffixes are also known.

Examples:

business: once *busy* is learnt, with due attention to the unusual spelling of the /i/ sound as ‘u’, *business* can then be spelt as **busy + ness**, with the **y** of **busy** changed to **i** according to the rule.

disappear: the root word *appear* contains sounds which can be spelt in more than one way so it needs to be learnt, but the prefix **dis-** is then simply added to **appear**.

Understanding the relationships between words can also help with spelling. Examples:

- *bicycle* is *cycle* (from the Greek for *wheel*) with **bi-** (meaning ‘two’) before it.
- *medicine* is related to *medical* so the /s/ sound is spelt as **c**.
- *opposite* is related to *oppose*, so the schwa sound in *opposite* is spelt as **o**.

Word list – years 3 and 4

accident(ally)	fruit	
actual(ly)	grammar	probably
address	group	promise
answer	guard	purpose
appear	guide	quarter
arrive	heard	question
believe	heart	recent
bicycle	height	regular
breath	history	reign
breathe	imagine	remember
build	increase	sentence
busy/business	important	separate
calendar	interest	special
caught	island	straight
centre	knowledge	strange
century	learn	strength
certain	length	suppose
circle	library	surprise
complete	material	therefore
consider	medicine	though/although
continue	mention	thought
decide	minute	through
describe	natural	various
different	naughty	weight
difficult	notice	woman/women
disappear	occasion(ally)	
early	often	
earth	opposite	
eight/eighth	ordinary	
enough	particular	
exercise	peculiar	
experience	perhaps	
experiment	popular	
extreme	position	
famous	possess(ion)	
favourite	possible	
February	potatoes	
forward(s)	pressure	