

Year	Guidance Areas	Composition		Transcription	
Group Progression		Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Composition	Spelling	Handwriting
Year 1	Key skills	□Say, and hold in memory whilst writing, simple sentences which make sense □ Write simple sentences that can be read by themselves and others □ Separate words with finger spaces □ Punctuate simple sentences with capital letters and full stops □ Use capital letter for the personal pronoun I □ Use capital letters for names of people, places and days of the week □ Identify and use question marks and exclamation marks □ Use simple connectives to link ideas e.g. and □ Pluralise nouns using 's' and 'es' e.g. dog, dogs; wish, wishes □ Add suffixes to verbs where no spelling change is needed to the root word e.g. helping, helped, helper □ Add the prefix 'un' to verbs and adjectives to change the meaning e.g. untie, unkind	□ Orally compose every sentence before writing □ Re-read every sentence to check it makes sense □ Orally plan and rehearse ideas □ Sequence ideas/events in order □ Use formulaic phrases to open and close texts □ Use familiar plots for structuring the opening, middle and end of their stories □ Write in different forms with simple text type features e.g. instructions, narratives, recounts, poems, information texts □ Discuss their writing with adults and peers □ Read aloud their writing to adults and peers	See also Sounds-Write progression Name the letters of the alphabet Use letter names to distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound Spell words containing each of the phonemes already taught Be able to encode the sounds they hear in words Be able to read back words they have spelt Use their phonic knowledge when spelling unfamiliar words (i.e. produce phonically plausible spellings) Spell common exception words Spell the days of the week Use the spelling rule for adding – s or –es (i.e. when the word has a /tz/ sound) Use the prefix un– for words without any change to the spelling of the root word Use suffixes –ing, –ed, –er and – est where no change is needed in the spelling of root words Write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include spelling taught.	Hold a pencil with an effective grip Form lower-case letters correctly - starting and finishing in the right place, going the right way round, correctly oriented Have clear ascenders ('tall letters') and descenders ('tails') Form capital letters correctly



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Year 2	Key skills	As above and: Say, write and punctuate simple and compound sentences using the connectives and, but and or use sentences with different forms: statement, question, command, exclamation Use commas to separate items in a list Use apostrophes for contracted forms e.g. don't, can't, wouldn't, you're, I'll Use subordination for time: while, as, before, after Use subordination for reason Select, generate and effectively use verbs Use past tense for narrative, recount (e.g. diary, newspaper report, biography) and historical reports Use present tense for nonchronological reports and persuasive adverts Select, generate and effectively use nouns Add suffixes ness and er to create nouns e.g. happiness, sadness, teacher, baker Select, generate and effectively use adjectives and suffixes ful or less to create adjectives e.g. playful, careful, careless Use suffixes er and est to create adjectives e.g. faster, fastest, Use suffix ly to turn adjectives into adverbs e.g. slowly, gently, carefully	As above and: Plan and discuss what to write about e.g. story mapping, collecting new vocabulary, key words and ideas Use specific text type features to write for a range of audiences and purposes e.g. to instruct, inform, entertain, explain, discuss, persuade Write about real and fictional events Write simple poems based on models Edit and improve their own writing in relation to audience and purpose Evaluate their writing with adults and peers Proofread to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation Read aloud their writing with intonation to make the meaning clear	As above and: Segment spoken words into phonemes and represent these by graphemes, spelling many correctly Learn new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known Learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones Learn to spell common exception words Learn to spell more words with contracted forms Distinguish between homophones and near homophone Add suffixes ness and er to create nouns e.g. happiness, sadness, teacher, baker Select, generate and effectively use adjectives. Add suffixes ful or less to create adjectives e.g. playful, hopeless Use suffixes er and est to create adjectives e.g. faster, fastest, Use suffix ly to turn adjectives into adverbs e.g. slowly, gently, carefully Write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words and punctuation taught so far	As above and: form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another use upper case letters appropriately e.g. not always writing A as a capital, not using capitals within words write upper case letters of the correct size relative to lower case letters start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters



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Year 3 Key skills	As above and: Explore and identify main and subordinate clauses in complex sentences Explore, identify and create complex sentences using a range of conjunctions e.g. if, while, since, after, before, so, although, until, in case Identify, select, generate and effectively use prepositions for where e.g. above, below, beneath, within, outside, Select, generate and effectively use adverbs e.g. suddenly, silently, Use inverted commas to punctuate direct speech Use perfect form of verbs using have and had to indicate a completed action e.g. I have washed my hands. We will have eaten our lunch by the time Dad arrives. Use the determiner a or an according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or vowel e.g. a rock, an open Explore and collect words with prefixes super, anti, auto	As above and: Plan their writing by: Reading and analysing narrative, non-fiction and poetry in order to plan and write their own versions Identifying and discussing the purpose, audience, language and structures of narrative, non-fiction and poetry for writing Discussing and recording ideas for planning Creating and developing settings for narratives Creating and developing characters for narrative Creating and developing plots based on a model Generating and selecting from vocabulary banks e.g. noun phrases, powerful verbs, technical language, synonyms for said appropriate to text type Grouping related material into paragraphs Using headings and sub headings to organise information Evaluate, and edit by: Proofreading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation in own and others' writing Discussing and proposing changes with partners and in small groups Improving writing in the light of evaluation Perform their own compositions by: Using appropriate intonation, tone and volume to present their writing to a group or class	As above and: Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them Spell further homophones Spell words that are often misspelt Write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far. Learn to spell new words correctly and have plenty of practice in spelling them. Understand how to place the apostrophe in words with regular plurals (e.g. girls', boys') Spell words as accurately as possible using their phonic knowledge and other knowledge of spelling, such as morphology and etymology	As above and: Form and use the four basic handwriting joins Write legibly



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Year 4	Key skills	As above and: Create complex sentences with adverb starters e.g. Silently trudging through the snow, Sam made his way up the mountain. Create sentences with fronted adverbials for when e.g. As the clock struck twelve, the soldiers sprang into action. Create sentences with fronted adverbials for where e.g. In the distance, a lone wolf howled. Use commas to mark clauses in complex sentences Use inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech e.g. The tour guide announced, "Be back here at four o' clock." Identify, select and effectively use pronouns Explore, identify, collect and use noun phrases e.g. The crumbly cookie with tasty marshmallow pieces melted in my mouth. Explore, identify and use Standard English verb inflections for writing e.g. We were instead of we was. Use apostrophes for singular and plural possession e.g. the dog's bone and the dogs' bones	As above and: Plan their writing by: Reading and analysing narrative, non-fiction and poetry in order to plan and write their own versions Identifying and discussing the purpose, audience, language and structures of narrative, non-fiction and poetry for writing Discussing and recording ideas for planning e.g. story mountain, story map, text map, non-fiction bridge, story board, boxing-up text types to create a plan Draft and write by: Developing settings and characterisation using vocabulary to create emphasis, humour, atmosphere, suspense Planning and writing an opening paragraph which combines the introduction of a setting and character/s Organising paragraphs in narrative and non-fiction Linking ideas within paragraphs e.g. fronted adverbials for when and where Generating and selecting from vocabulary banks e.g. powerful adverbs, adverbial phrases, technical language, persuasive phrases, alliteration appropriate to text type Evaluate and edit by: Proofreading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation in own and others' writing Discussing and proposing changes with partners and in small groups Improving writing in light of evaluation Perform own compositions for different audiences Use appropriate intonation, tone and volume to present their writing to a range of audiences.	As above and: Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them Spell further homophones Spell words that are often misspelt Use the first three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary Write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far. Learn to spell new words correctly and have plenty of practice in spelling them. Understand how to place the apostrophe in words with irregular plurals (e.g. children's). Spell words as accurately as possible using their phonic knowledge and other knowledge of spelling	As above and: Write with consistency in size and proportion of letters, e.g. by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch



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Year 5	Key skills	As above and: Create complex sentences by using relative clauses with pronouns who, which, where, whose, when, that Create and punctuate complex sentences using ed openers Create and punctuate complex sentences using ing openers Create and punctuate complex sentences using simile starters Demarcate complex sentences using commas and explore ambiguity of meaning Explore, collect and use modal verbs to indicate degrees of possibility e.g. might, could, shall, will, must Use devices to build cohesion within a paragraph e.g. firstly, then, presently, subsequently Link ideas across paragraphs using adverbials for time, place and numbers Identify and use brackets and dashes Use suffixes—ate,—ise,—ify to convert nouns and adjectives into verbs Investigate verb prefixes e.g. dis-, re-, pre-, mis-, over-	As above and: Plan their writing by: Identifying the audience and purpose Selecting the appropriate language and structures Using similar writing models Noting and developing ideas Drawing on reading and research Thinking how authors develop characters and settings (in books, films and performances) Draft and write by: Selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary Blending action, dialogue and description within and across paragraphs Using devices to build cohesion (see VGP column) Using organisation and presentational devices e.g. headings, sub headings, bullet points, diagrams, text boxes Evaluate and edit by: Assessing the effectiveness of own and others' writing in relation to audience and purpose Suggesting changes to grammar, vocabulary and punctuation to enhance effects and clarify meaning Ensuring consistent and correct use of tense throughout a piece of writing Ensuring consistent subject and verb agreement Proofreading for spelling and punctuation errors Perform own compositions for different audiences: Using appropriate intonation and volume Ensuring meaning is clear	As above and: Spell words that they have not yet been taught by using what they have learnt about how spelling works in English. Use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidelines for adding them Spell some words with 'silent' letters, e.g. knight, psalm, solemn 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 specifically Use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of words Use the first three or four letters of a word to check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary Use a thesaurus Use suffixes –ate, -ise, -ify to convert nouns and adjectives into verbs Investigate verb prefixes e.g. dis-, re-, pre-, mis-, over	As above and: Write fluently Choose when it is appropriate to print or join writing e.g. printing for labelling a scientific diagram



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Year 6	Key skills	As above and:	As above and: Plan their writing by:	As above and: Be secure with all spelling rules previously	As above and: Write with increasing speed
		☐ Manipulate sentences to create particular	o ,	,	while with increasing speed
		effects	☐ Identifying audience and purpose	taught	
		☐ Use devices to build cohesion between	Choose appropriate text-form and type for all	□ Write increasingly confidently, accurately	
		paragraphs in persuasive, discursive and	writing	and fluently, spelling with automaticity	
		explanatory texts e.g. on the other hand, the	Selecting the appropriate language and	☐ Use a number of different strategies	
		opposing view, similarly, in contrast, although,	structures	interactively in order to spell correctly	
		additionally, another possibility, alternatively, as a	☐ Drawing on similar writing models, reading and	☐ Develop self-checking and proof-checking	
		consequence	research	strategies	
		☐ Use devices to build cohesion between	☐ Using a range of planning approaches e.g.	☐ Use independent spelling strategies for	
		paragraphs in narrative e.g. in the meantime,	storyboard, story mountain, discussion group,	spelling unfamiliar words	
		meanwhile, in due course, until then	post-it notes, ICT story planning		
		☐ Use ellipsis to link ideas between paragraphs	Draft and write by:		
		□ Identify and use colons to introduce a list	□ Selecting appropriate vocabulary and		
		☐ Identify and use semi-colons to mark the	language effects, appropriate to task, audience		
		boundary between independent clauses e.g. It is	and purpose, for precision and impact		
		raining; I am fed up.	☐ Introducing and developing characters		
		□ Investigate and collect a range of synonyms	through blending action, dialogue and		
		and antonyms e.g. mischievous, wicked, evil,	description within sentences and paragraphs		
		impish, spiteful, well-behaved	☐ Using devices to build cohesion		
		 Explore how hyphens can be used to avoid 	□ Deviating narrative from linear or		
		ambiguity e.g. man eating shark versus man-	chronological sequence e.g. flashbacks,		
		eating shark	simultaneous actions, time-shifts		
		 Explore and collect vocabulary typical of formal 	Evaluating, selecting and using a range of		
		and informal speech and writing e.g. find out –	organisation and presentational devices for		
		discover, ask for - request,	different purposes and audiences		
		☐ Identify the subject and object of a sentence	☐ Finding examples of where authors have		
		 Explore and investigate active and passive e.g. I 	broken conventions to achieve specific effects		
		broke the window in the greenhouse versus the	and using similar techniques in own		
		window in the greenhouse was broken	writing – e.g. repeated use of 'and' to convey		
			tedium, one word sentence.		
			☐ Make conscious choices about techniques to		
			engage the reader including appropriate tone		
			and style e.g. rhetorical questions, direct address		
			to the reader		
			☐ Use active and passive voice to achieve		
			intended effects e.g. in formal reports,		
			explanations and mystery narrative		
			Evaluate and edit by:		
			☐ Reflecting upon the effectiveness of writing in		
			relation to audience and purpose, suggesting		
			and making changes to enhance effects and		
			clarify meaning		
			☐ Proofreading for grammatical, spelling and		
			punctuation errors		
			Evaluate and improve performances of		
			compositions focusing on:		
			☐ Intonation and volume		
			Gesture and movement		
			Audience engagement		
			- Academic origination		



Writing Skills Overview