Key Skills

Strive to read and write fluently, confidently and with proficient literacy skills to communicate with, and understand, the wider world.

English Skills Progression Map



Reading - Word Reading

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words	continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words until automatic decoding has become embedded and reading is fluent	apply their growing know prefixes and suffixes (e morphology) as listed in aloud and to understand words they meet	tymology and Appendix 1, both to read	apply their growing know prefixes and suffixes (n etymology), as listed in a aloud and to understand words that they meet.	norphology and Appendix 1, both to read
respond speedily with the correct sound to graphemes (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes, including, where applicable, alternative sounds for graphemes read accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words containing GPCs (Grapheme phoneme correspondence) that	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				
have been taught read common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word	read words containing common suffixes				

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read words containing	read further common	read further exception words, noting the	
taught GPCs and -s, -	exception words,	unusual correspondences between spelling and	
es, -ing, -ed, -er and -	noting unusual	sound, and where these occur in the word.	
est endings	correspondence		
	between spelling and		
	sound and where these		
	occur in the word		
read other words of	read most words		
more than one syllable	quickly and accurately		
that contain taught	when they have been		
GPCs	frequently		
	encountered without		
	overt sounding and		
	blending		
read words with			
contractions, e.g. I'm,			
I'll, we'll, and under-			
stand that the			
apostrophe represents			
the omitted letter(s)			
read aloud accurately	read aloud books		
books that are	closely matched to		
consistent with their	their improving phonic		
developing phonic	knowledge, sounding		
knowledge and that do	out unfamiliar words		
not require them to	accurately,		
use other strategies to	automatically and		
work out words	without undue		
	hesitation		
re-read these books to	re-read these books to		
build up their fluency	build up their fluency		
and confidence in word	and confidence in word		
reading	reading.		

Reading Comprehension

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
develop pleasure in	develop pleasure in	develop positive attitudes		maintain positive attitu	
reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and	reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and	understanding of what they read by:		understanding of what	they read by:
understanding by	understanding by:				
listening to and discussing a wide range of poems, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently	listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of poetry (including contemporary and classic), stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which	listening to and discussing poetry, plays, non-fiction textbooks	_	continuing to read and a wide range of fiction, p and reference books or	oetry, plays, non-fiction
being encouraged to link what they read or hear read to their own	they can read independently	reading books that are st ways and reading for a ra		reading books that are ways and reading for a	structured in different range of purposes
experiences becoming very familiar with key stories, fairy stories and traditional tales, retelling them and considering their particular characteristics	becoming increasingly familiar with and retelling a wider range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales	increasing their familiarit books, including fairy sto and retelling some of the	ries, myths and legends,	books, including myths,	, fiction from our literary
recognising and joining in with predictable phrases	discussing the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related	using dictionaries to chec that they have read	k the meaning of words		
	being introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways	retrieve and record infor	mation from non-fiction	retrieve, record and pr non-fiction	esent information from

		identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books	identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing
learning to appreciate rhymes and poems, and to recite some by heart	continuing to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some, with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear	-	learning a wider range of poetry by heart
		preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action	preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience
	recognising simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry	recognising some different forms of poetry (e.g. free verse, narrative poetry)	
understand both the boo accurately and fluently a by:		understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:	understand what they read by:
drawing on what they alr background information of by the teacher	•		
checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading	checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading	checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context	checking that the book makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context
discussing the significance of the title and events	discussing their favourite words and phrases	discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination	discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader
making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done	making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done	drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence	drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
	answering and asking questions	asking questions to improve their understanding of a text	asking questions to improve their understanding

predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far	predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far	predicting what might happen from details stated and implied	predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
participate in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say	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	participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say.	participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously
explain clearly their understanding of what is read to them.	explain and discuss their understanding of books, poems and other material, both those that they listen to and those that they read for themselves.		explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates, maintaining a focus on the topic and using notes where necessary
		identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning	Provide reasoned justifications for their views. summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning
		presentation contribute to meaning	making comparisons within and across books distinguish between statements of fact and opinion
			recommending books that they have read to their peers, giving reasons for their choices

Writing

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
spell:	spell by:				
words containing each	segmenting spoken				
of the 40+ phonemes	words into phonemes				
already taught	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				
common exception	learning to spell				
words	common exception				
	words				
the days of the week					
naming the letters of	learning to spell more				
the alphabet in order	words with contracted				
	forms				
using letter names to	distinguishing between	spell further homophone	 S	continue to distinguish	between homophones and
distinguish between	homophones and near-			other words which are	•
alternative spellings of	homophones				
the same sound					
add prefixes and	add suffixes to spell	use further prefixes and	suffixes and	use further prefixes ar	nd suffixes and
suffixes	longer words, e.g	understand how to add t		understand the guidelin	
	ment, -ness, -ful, -less,		, , ,		3
	-ly				
using the prefix un-					
using the spelling rule	apply spelling rules and	spell words that are ofte	en misspelt (Appendix 1)	spell some words with 's	silent' letters, e.g. knight,
for adding -s or -es as	guidelines, as listed in		, , , ,	psalm, solemn	
the plural marker for	Appendix 1				

nouns and the third			
person singular marker			
for verbs			
using -ing, -ed, -er and			
-est where no change is			
needed in the spelling			
of root words (e.g.			
helping, helped, helper,			
eating, quicker,			
quickest)			
apply simple spelling			
rules and guidelines, as			
listed in Appendix 1			
	rite from memory	write from memory simple sentences, dictated by	
•	imple sentences	the teacher, that include words and punctuation	
·	lictated by the	taught so far	
	eacher that include		
9	ords and punctuation		
†c	aught so far		
		use the first two or three letters of a word to	use the first three or four letters of a word to
		check its spelling in a dictionary	check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary
			use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning
			of words
			use a thesaurus.
			use knowledge of morphology and etymology in
			spelling and understand that the spelling of some
			words needs to be learnt specifically, as listed in Appendix 1

Handwriting			
sit correctly at a table,			
holding a pencil			
comfortably and			
correctly			
begin to form lower-	form lower-case		
case letters in the	letters of the correct		
correct direction,	size relative to one		
starting and finishing in	another		
the right place			
	start using some of the	use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are	
	diagonal and horizontal	needed to join letters and understand which	
	strokes needed to join	letters, when adjacent to one another, are best	
	letters and understand	left unjoined	
	which letters, when		
	adjacent to one		
	another, are best left		
	unjoined		
form capital letters	write capital letters		
	and digits of the		
	correct size,		
	orientation and		
	relationship to one		
	another and to lower		
<i>f</i> 1: :: 0 0	case letters		
form digits 0-9	use spacing between		write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed
	words that reflects		by:
	the size of the letters.	incompany the legibility constates and an U. C.	alegating militals alegan of a laster to man military
understand which		increase the legibility, consistency and quality of	choosing which shape of a letter to use when
letters belong to which		their handwriting, e.g. by ensuring that the down	given choices and deciding, as part of their
handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are		strokes of letters are parallel and equidistant;	personal style, whether or not to join specific
,		that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do	letters
formed in similar ways)			
and to practise these.		not touch.	choosing the writing implement that is best
			suited for a task (e.g. quick notes, letters).
			Surred for a rask (e.g. quick notes, letters).

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		
	consider what they are going to write before beginning by:	plan their writing by: discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar	plan their writing by: lidentifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own
	writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary	discussing and recording ideas	noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary
write sentences by: saying out loud what they are going to write about	planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about	draft and write by: composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures (See Appendix 2)	draft and write by: selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning
composing a sentence orally before writing it	encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence		
sequencing sentences to form short narratives		organising paragraphs around a theme	using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs
re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense	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		
	make simple additions,		
	revisions and		
	corrections to their		
diagrama sub at the see he see	own writing by:	analyseka and adik kun	and the second and the land
discuss what they have	evaluating their writing	evaluate and edit by:	evaluate and edit by:
written with the	with the teacher and	assessing the effectiveness of their own and	assessing the effectiveness of their own and
teacher or other pupils	other pupils	others' writing and suggesting improvements	others' writing
		proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to	proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and
		improve consistency, e.g. the accurate use of	punctuation to enhance effects and clarify
		pronouns in sentences	meaning
			ensuring the consistent and correct use of tense
			throughout a piece of writing
			ensuring correct subject and verb agreement
			when using singular and plural, distinguishing
			between the language of speech and writing and
			choosing the appropriate register
	proof-reading to check	proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors	proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors
	for errors in spelling,		
	grammar and		
	punctuation (e.g. ends		
	of sentences		
	punctuated correctly)		
read aloud their writing	read aloud what they	read aloud their own writing, to a group or the	perform their own compositions, using
clearly	have written with	whole class, using appropriate intonation and	appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so
credity	appropriate intonation	controlling the tone and volume so that the	that meaning is clear.
		meaning is clear.	That meaning is creat.
	to make the meaning	meaning is clear.	
	clear.		
	writing for different		
	purposes		
	writing poetry		
		in narratives, creating settings, characters and	in writing narratives, considering how authors
		plot	have developed characters and settings in what
			they have read, listened to or seen performed
			in narratives, describing settings, characters and
			atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey
			character and advance the action

			précising longer passages
		in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices such as headings and subheadings	using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader (e.g. headings, bullet points, underlining)
Vocabulary, grammar a	nd punctuation		
leaving spaces between words			
joining words and joining sentences using and	subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co-ordination (using or, and, or but)	extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, e.g. when, if, because, although	using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (i.e. omitted) relative pronoun
beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark	learning how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly (see Appendix 2), including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms	using and punctuating direct speech	using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing
		using commas after fronted adverbials	using semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries between main clauses
		indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with singular and plural nouns	using hyphens to avoid ambiguity
			using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis
			using a colon to introduce a list
			punctuating bullet points consistently
using a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'T'			

	sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command		
	expanded noun phrases to describe and specify, e.g. the blue butterfly	choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition	using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely
		using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause	using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence
		using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause	using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility
		using fronted adverbials	
	the present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form		
	using some features of written Standard English		recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms
learning the grammar in column 1 in year 1 in Appendix 2	learning the grammar in column 1 of year 2 in Appendix 2	learning the grammar in column 1 of year 3 and 4 in Appendix 2	learning the grammar in column 1 of year 1 in Appendix 2
use the grammatical terminology in Appendix 2 in discussing their writing.	use and understand the grammatical terminology in Appendix 2 in discussing their writing.	use and understand the grammatical terminology in Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading.	use and understand the grammatical terminology in Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately in discussing their writing and reading.