



Spelling in Year 1

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
<p>Revision of Reception work</p> <p>The boundary between revision of work covered in Reception and the introduction of new work may vary according to the programme used, but basic revision should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all grapheme-phoneme correspondences which have been taught • the process of segmenting spoken words into sounds before choosing graphemes to represent the sounds • words with adjacent consonants; • rules and guidelines which have been taught • vowel digraphs which have been taught 		<p>No example words are suggested because the selection will vary according to the programme used, particularly where vowel digraphs are concerned.</p>
<p>The sounds /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ spelt ff, ll, ss, zz and ck</p>	<p>The /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ sounds are usually spelt as ff, ll, ss, zz and ck if they come straight after a single vowel letter in short words. Exceptions: if, pal, us, bus, yes.</p>	<p>off, well, miss, buzz, back</p>
<p>The /ŋ/ sound spelt n before k</p>		<p>bank, think, honk, sunk</p>
<p>Division of words into syllables</p>	<p>Each syllable is like a 'beat' in the spoken word. Words of more than one syllable often have an unstressed syllable in which the vowel is unclear so the spelling of this vowel may need to be learnt.</p>	<p>pocket, rabbit, carrot, thunder, sunset</p>
<p>-tch</p>	<p>The /tʃ/ sound is usually spelt as tch if it comes straight after a single vowel letter. Exceptions: rich, which, much, such.</p>	<p>catch, fetch, kitchen, notch, hutch</p>
<p>The /v/ sound at the end of words</p>	<p>English words hardly ever end with the letter v, so if a word ends with a /v/ sound, the letter e usually needs to be added after the 'v'.</p>	<p>have, live, give</p>
<p>Adding s and es to words (plural of nouns and the third person singular of verbs)</p>	<p>If the ending sounds like /s/ or /z/, it is spelt as -s. If the ending sounds like /ɪz/ and forms an extra syllable or 'beat' in the word, it is spelt as -es.</p>	<p>cats, dogs, spends, rocks, thanks, catches</p>
<p>Adding the endings -ing, -ed and -er to verbs where no change is needed to the root word</p>	<p>-ing and -er always add an extra syllable to the word and -ed sometimes does. The past tense of some verbs may sound as if it ends in /ɪd/ (extra</p>	<p>hunting, hunted, hunter, buzzing, buzzed, buzzer, jumping, jumped, jumper</p>

	<p>syllable), /d/ or /t/ (no extra syllable), but all these endings are spelt -ed.</p> <p>If the verb ends in two consonant letters (the same or different), the ending is simply added on.</p>	
Adding -er and -est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word	As with verbs (see above), if the adjective ends in two consonant letters (the same or different), the ending is simply added on.	grand ^{er} , grand ^{est} , fresh ^{er} , fresh ^{est} , quick ^{er} , quick ^{est}
Vowel digraphs and trigraphs ai oi ay oy a-e e-e i-e o-e u-e ar ee ea (/i:/) ea (/ɛ/) er (/ɜ:/) er (/ə/) ir ur oo oo oa oe	<p>Some may already be known, depending on the programmes used in reception, but some will be new. The endings -ing, -ed, -er and -est, if relevant, can be added straight on to all the words which can function as verbs or adjectives, except for those in italics.</p> <p>The digraphs ai and oi are never used at the end of English words.</p> <p>ay and oy are used for those sounds at the end of words and at the end of syllables.</p> <p>Both the /u:/ and /ju:/ sounds can be spelt u-e</p> <p>Very few words end with the letters oo.</p> <p>The digraph oa is very rare at the end of an English word.</p>	<p>rain, wait, train, paid, afraid oil, join, coin, point, soil day, play, say, way, stay boy, toy, enjoy, annoy made, came, same, take, safe these, theme, complete five, ride, like, time, side home, those, woke, hope, hole June, rule, rude, use, tube, tune car, start, park, arm, garden see, tree, green, meet, week sea, dream, meat, each, read (present tense) head, bread, meant, instead, read (past tense) (stressed sound): her, term, verb, person (unstressed <i>schwa</i> sound): better, under, summer, winter, sister girl, bird, shirt, first, third turn, hurt, church, burst, Thursday food, pool, moon, zoo, soon book, took, foot, wood, good boat, coat, road, coach, goal toe, goes</p>
ou ow (/aʊ/)	<p>The only common English word ending in ou is <i>you</i>.</p> <p>Both the /u:/ and /ju:/ (“oo” and “yoo”) sounds can be spelt as u-e, ue</p>	<p>out, about, mouth, around, sound now, how, brown, down, town</p>

ow (/əʊ/) ue ew ie (/aɪ/) ie (/i:/) igh or ore aw au air ear ear (/ɛə/) are (/ɛə/)	and ew . If words end in the /oo/ sound, ue and ew are more common spellings than oo .	own, blow, snow, grow, show blue, clue, true, rescue, Tuesday new, few, grew, flew, drew, threw lie, tie, pie, cried, tried, dried chief, field, thief high, night, light, bright, right for, short, born, horse, morning more, score, before, wore, shore saw, draw, yawn, crawl author, August, dinosaur, astronaut air, fair, pair, hair, chair dear, hear, beard, near, year bear, pear, wear bare, dare, care, share, scared
Words ending –y (/i:/ or /ɪ/ depending on accent)		very, happy, funny, party, family
New consonant spellings ph and wh	The /f/ sound is not usually spelt as ph in short everyday words (e.g. <i>fat, fill, fun</i>).	dolphin, alphabet, phonics, elephant when, where, which, wheel, while
Using k for the /k/ sound	The /k/ sound is spelt as k rather than as c before e, i and y .	Kent, sketch, kit, skin, frisky
Adding the prefix –un	The prefix un– is added to the beginning of a word without any change to the spelling of the root word.	unhappy, undo, unload, unfair, unlock
Compound words	Compound words are two words joined together. Each part of the longer word is spelt as it would be if it were on its own.	football, playground, farmyard, bedroom, blackberry
Common exception words		the, a, do, to, today, of, said, says, are, were, was, is, his, has, I, you, your, they, be, he, me, she, we, no, go, so, by, my, here, there, where, love, come, some, one, once, ask, friend, school, put, push, pull, full, house, our, and/or others, according to the programme used