



# SPELLING IN YEAR 1

How to support your  
child at home.

# WHY TEACH SPELLING?

Teachers want their pupils to become fluent and effective writers; accurate spelling is a means to that end. Competent spellers need to spend less time and energy in thinking about spelling to enable them to channel their time and energy into the skills of composition, sentence structure and precise word choice.

# SPELLING EXPECTATION IN YEAR 1

- Can spell many of the Y1 common exception words
- Can spell words ending in -ing, -ed, est and -er (where no change is needed to the root word)
- Can spell words containing the range of Y1 phonemes
- Can spell words using the prefix -un
- Can spell plural nouns by adding -s and -es
- Compound words

1. look in the dragoniys eyes and sey sit

2. lie down you get a treet and put it in yor hand and clows yor hand plays it down and say liy down and then give the tree to mum then.

3. If you wont to make yor dragon to stay you poot yor hand in frun of you and say stay.

4. I put My one finger up and tund it rawd and rawd and the dragon tund arald and he did it.

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# CURSIVE HANDWRITING

- Cursive handwriting has been proven to improve spelling results.
- It enables children to remember the shape of the whole word rather than individual letters.
- All practice of spelling should be cursive.
- All resources sent home will be cursive.

# WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Find a way to remember unusual spelling patterns, say it as it looks or link to an image
- Write the word in the palm of your hand with your finger- muscle memory will help to remember the shape of the letters.
- Role reversal: you write the words making some 'mistakes' and let the child be the teacher.
- Repetition, repetition, repetition.
- Make it fun - type words, fridge magnets or write in shaving foam.
- The importance of parental help at home at this stage cannot be over-stressed. **Year 1 is a crucial year for spelling, when all the vital phonics ground work is laid down ready for future years.** Ensuring that your child knows their spellings for their weekly test should be a top homework priority.

# WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

“I find the best way to learn new words is to write them over and over again. To make it more interesting for my daughter, we don’t just use pencil and paper – she also practises with bath crayons on the wall tiles, a mini whiteboard and pavement chinks in the garden.”

“I write my daughter’s words on sticky notes and put them in places where I know she’ll see them often, such as in her lunch box and on her mirror. She can then glance at them in passing, which helps them sink in.”

“Word puzzles help my children with their spellings. I often make word searches or crosswords using their weekly words, and we play Hangman with them, too.”

