

Progression in Writing

EYFS Statutory Educational Programme

Literacy It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) starts from birth. It only develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together. Skilled word reading, taught later, involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Writing involves transcription (spelling and handwriting) and composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech, before writing).

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Transcription: Spelling	(DM 2020: Literacy) Develop their phonological	(DM 2020: Literacy) Read individual letters by saying the sounds	Spelling (see English Appendix 1)	Spelling (see English Appendix 1)	Spelling (see English Appendix 1)	Spelling (see English Appendix 1)
	awareness, so that they can: - spot and suggest rhymes	for them. Blend sounds into	Pupils should be taught to spell:	Pupils should be taught to spell by:	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:
	rnymes - count or clap syllables in a word - recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother (DM 2020: Communication and Language) Develop their communication, but may continue to have problems with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'swam'.	Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known letter- sound correspondences. Read some letter groups that each represent one sound and say sounds for them. Read some letter groups that each represent one sound and say sounds for them.	 -words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught -common exception words -the days of the week name the letters of the alphabet: -naming the letters of the alphabet in order - using letter names to distinguish between 	 segmenting spoken words into phonemes 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 	 use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them (English Appendix 1) spell further homophones spell words that are often misspelt (English Appendix 1) place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words 	 use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them spell some words with 'silent' letters [for example, knight, psalm, solemn] continue to distinguish between homophones and other words which are often confused use knowledge of
	Develop their pronunciation but may	Read a few common exception words	distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound	learning to spell common exception	with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words	 Use knowledge of morphology and etymology in
	have problems saying: - some sounds: r, j, th, ch, and sh - multi-syllabic	matched to the school's phonic programme.	 add prefixes and suffixes: 	words	with irregular plurals [for example, children's]	spelling and understand that the spelling of some



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	words such as 'pterodactyl', 'planetarium' or 'hippopotamus'.	Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s. Early Learning Goals Literacy ELG: Writing Children at the expected level of development will: - Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed; - Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters; - Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.	 -using the spelling rule for adding –s or –es as the plural marker for nouns and the third person singular marker for verbs -using the prefix un– -using –ing, –ed, –er and –est where no change is needed in the spelling of root words [for example, helper, eating, quicker, quickest] apply simple spelling rules and guidance, as listed in English Appendix 1 write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far. 	 learning to spell more words with contracted forms learning the possessive apostrophe (singular) [for example, the girl's book] - distinguishing between homophones and near homophones and near homophones add suffixes to spell longer words, including -ment, - ness, -ful, -less, -ly apply spelling rules and guidance, as listed in English Appendix 1 write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far. 	use the first two or 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.	•	words needs to be learnt specifically, as listed in English Appendix 1 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.



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	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Transcription: Handwriting	 (DM 2020: Literacy) Write some letters accurately. Write some or all of their name. (DM 2020: Physical Development) Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors. Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils. Start eating independently and learning how to use a knife and fork. Show a preference for a dominant hand. (DM 2020: Expressive Arts and Design) Create closed shapes with continuous lines, and begin to use these shapes to represent objects. 	(DM 2020: Literacy) Form lower-case and capital letters correctly. (DM 2020: Physical Development) Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons. Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient. Early Learning Goals Physical Development ELG: Fine Motor Skills Children at the expected level of development will: - Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the	 Pupils should be taught to: sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place form capital letters form digits 0-9 understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these 	 Pupils should be taught to: form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters. 	 Pupils should be taught to: use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, 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]. 	Pupils should be taught to: • write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by: -choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters -choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.



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	Draw with increasing complexity and detail, such as representing a face with a circle and including details. Use drawing to represent ideas like movement or loud noises. Show different emotions in their drawings and paintings, like happiness, sadness, fear etc.	tripod grip in almost all cases; - Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery; - Begin to show accuracy and care when drawing. Literacy ELG: Writing Children at the expected level of development will: - Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed; - Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters; - Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.				
Composition	(DM 2020: Literacy) Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary. Understand the five key concepts about print: - print has meaning - print can have different purposes - we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom	(DM 2020: Literacy) Write short sentences with words with known sound-letter correspondences using a capital letter and full stop. Re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense. (DM 2020: Communication and Language)	Pupils should be taught to: • write sentences by: • saying out loud what they are going to write about • composing a sentence orally before writing it • sequencing sentences to form short narratives • re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense	Pupils should be taught to: • 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	Pupils should be taught to: • 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	Pupils should be taught to: • plan their writing by: identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on



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	- the names of the	Articulate their ideas	 discuss what they 	-writing poetry	-discussing and	reading and research
	different parts of a	and thoughts in well-	have written with the		recording ideas	where necessary
	book	formed sentences.	teacher or other	-writing for different		
	-page sequencing		pupils	purposes	 draft and write 	 in writing narratives,
		Connect one idea or	 read aloud their 		by:	considering how
	Use some of their	action to another using	writing clearly enough	 consider what they 		authors have
	print and letter	a range of	to be heard by their	are going to write	-composing and	developed characters
	knowledge in their	connectives.	peers and the	before beginning	rehearsing	and settings in what
	early writing. For		teacher.	by:	sentences orally	pupils have read,
	example: writing a	Describe events in			(including dialogue),	listened to or seen
	pretend shopping list	some detail.		-planning or saying	progressively	performed 🗆 draft
	that starts at the top			out loud what they	building a varied	and write by:
	of the page; writing	Listen to and talk		are going to write	and rich vocabulary	
	'm' for mummy.	about stories to build		about	and an increasing	-selecting appropriate
		familiarity and			range of sentence	grammar and
	(DM 2020:	understanding.		-writing down ideas	structures (English	vocabulary,
	Communication and			and/or key words,	Appendix 2)	understanding how
	language)	Early Learning Goals		including new		such choices can
	Use longer sentences			vocabulary	-organising	change and enhance
	of four to six words.	Literacy			paragraphs around	meaning
		ELG: Writing		-encapsulating what	a theme	
		Children at the		they want to say,		-in narratives, describing
		expected level of		sentence by	-in narratives,	settings, characters and
		development will: -		sentence	creating settings,	atmosphere and
		Write recognisable			characters and plot	integrating dialogue to
		letters, most of which		• make simple		convey character and
		are correctly formed;		additions, revisions	-in non-narrative	advance the action
		- Spell words by		and corrections to	material, using	
		identifying sounds in		their own writing by:	simple	-précising longer
		them and representing the sounds with a letter			organisational	passages
		or letters;		-evaluating their	devices [for	using quide range of
		-		writing with the	example, headings	-using a wide range of
		- Write simple phrases and sentences that		teacher and other pupils	and sub-headings]	devices to build cohesion within and
				-re-reading to check	- avaluate and edit	
		can be read by others.		that their writing	 evaluate and edit by: 	across paragraphs
				makes sense and that	Uy.	-using further
				verbs to indicate time	-assessing the	organisational and
				are used correctly	effectiveness of their	presentational devices
				and consistently,	own and others'	to structure text and to
				including verbs in the	writing and	guide the reader [for
				continuous form		example, headings,
		l			l	



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		suggesting	bullet points,
	-proof-reading to	improvements	underlining]
	check for errors in		
	spelling, grammar	-proposing changes	 evaluate and edit by:
	and punctuation [for	to grammar and	
	example, ends of	vocabulary to	-assessing the
	sentences	improve	effectiveness of their
	punctuated correctly]	consistency,	own and others' writing,
		including the	proposing changes to
	-read aloud what	accurate use of	vocabulary, grammar
	they have written with	pronouns in	and punctuation to
	appropriate	sentences	enhance effects and
	intonation to make		clarify meaning
	the meaning clear.	-proof-read for	
		spelling and	-ensuring the consistent
		punctuation errors	and correct use of
			tense throughout a
		-read aloud their	piece of writing
		own writing, to a	
		group or the whole	-ensuring correct
		class, using	subject and verb
		appropriate	agreement when using
		intonation and	singular and plural,
		controlling the tone	distinguishing between
		and volume so that	the language of speech
		the meaning is clear.	and writing and
			choosing the
			appropriate register
			-proof-read for spelling
			and punctuation errors

*References for EYFS are taken from Development Matters. They are not intended to link into the Key stage One curriculum but rather to provide the foundation for children to acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary for their future next steps.

*EY practitioners will also consider the Characteristics of Effective Learning when considering the best ways to support children's progress