

Spelling Policy Maple School June 2018

The importance of spelling to the curriculum

Spelling is an integral part of the writing process. Pupils who spell with ease can concentrate on the content of their writing. Confidence in spelling often has a profound effect on the writer's self-image.

Aims

- To encourage children to write with confidence
- To encourage and develop interest in spelling
- To recognise accurate spelling as an important part of communicating meaning
- To Spell confidently the words that they use frequently in their writing
- Learn to check spelling
- Learn strategies to spell unknown words correctly
- To ensure continuity and consistency in the teaching of spelling across the school.

Foundation Stage and KS1

We teach using the Read Write Inc. phonics programme for pupils from Year R to Year 2 who are learning to read and write. The programme encourages children to spell quickly and easily by segmenting the sounds in words.

Any pupils in Year 2 who are not reading with speed and accuracy continue the programme until they are at the expected standard or a decision is made that they need to move on to Year 2 curriculum for the overall benefit of their writing.

Embedding the alphabetic code early on means that pupils quickly learn to write simple words and sentences. We encourage them to compose each sentence aloud until they are confident to write independently. Pupils write at the level of their spelling knowledge.

KS1 and KS2

We aim for most pupils to finish the 'Read Write Inc.' programme for phonics by the end of Year 1. At Year 2 and Key Stage 2, the majority of pupils will move to the 'Read Write Inc. – Get Spelling' programme which has an emphasis on developing a range of strategies to remember how words are spelt, including mnemonics and spelling rules. The children are taught:

- ~common root words with prefixes and suffixes
- ~mnemonics and strategies for learning irregular words
- ~ how to identify quickly their own frequently misspelt words.

The children are helped to embed new knowledge by articulating their learning at every step. Building on the approaches introduced in Key Stage 1, there is an emphasis on developing confidence and independence.

Assessment

- KS1 and KS2 children are assessed against the National Curriculum using assessment criteria produced by HfL.
- Teachers make on-going informal assessments to inform future planning and interventions.
- Written work assessed for Y2 SATs teacher assessment is assessed using marking criteria which includes spelling.
- There is a separate spelling test at Y2 and Y6 for SATs assessment.
- All year groups assess spelling through weekly testing (reinforced through homework).
- All pupils following the Read Write Inc. Phonics programme are assessed using the Sound and Word Assessments every half term.
- All KS2 classes administer NFER spelling tests at the end of the summer term.

Spelling Errors

Spelling errors are identified in accordance with the school assessment and feedback policy. Not all spellings will be corrected.

SEN

Using the 'Read Write Inc' assessment, any pupils who are significantly below age-related expectations or remain at the same 'Read Write Inc' level for two cycles are given extra support by a TA using the '1-1 tuition' materials.

Word Shark is an online resource which helps teach spellings using interactive games and activities. This resource is especially helpful for children with dyslexia, SEN or EAL.

In Year 2 and KS2 children are given 1:2:1 support or small group support from TA or Teachers where necessary.

Parents

We expect parents to help practise weekly spellings with their children at home ready for their weekly spelling test in class.

Each year group has a list of common or exception words which they should be able to spell by the end of each year. These lists can be found as follows:

-KS1 reading diaries contain a list of year group specific words at the back for easy reference.

The statutory National Curriculum word-lists for years 3 and 4 and years 5 and 6 can be found on the English Curriculum Page of the school website.