



Avenue Junior School Spelling Policy

The following spelling policy has been devised to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum 2014 for the teaching and learning of spelling, and is also designed to give pupils a consistent and smooth progression of their spelling proficiency across the school. The policy will ensure consistency in the way that spelling is taught throughout school and that children will be able to build on the patterns they have learnt previously.

Spelling is taught in classes as part of English teaching. Some children with additional identified spelling needs will have further support in small group or individual work.

The aim of the spelling policy is to create confident spellers, secure in their use of spelling patterns and the application of this to their work. Children will be taught the skills needed to proof read their work for identification of spelling errors, and have time to investigate correct spellings through the use of spell checkers, dictionaries and peer marking.

- Children will focus on a weekly spelling rule or pattern taken from the National Curriculum programme of study for their year group. These rules and patterns will be taught regularly through a range of activities, including handwriting.
- Teachers will create 3 lists of spellings using the weekly rule. Children can then select the level of challenge they would like to choose that week, with the guidance of teachers if needed.
- Where appropriate, some children may be given spellings based on their work in Sound Discovery or Precision Teaching rather than the spelling rule currently being taught in class.
- The spellings will be sent home in the Homework Diary on a set day each week, and tested on a set day each week, to ensure consistency.
- When children are writing independently, teachers will mark no more than 3 misspellings in their work. Children will then write these out 3 times to help them learn the correct spelling. As children's proficiency improves they will be encouraged to use a dictionary to find the correct spelling of the word highlighted.
- Children will also be given the list of Year 3/4 or 5/6 exception words from the National Curriculum. This will be glued into the Homework Diary. Children will be guided to choose up to 5 words from this list to learn per week and will be tested on these on the same day as the spelling test.
- Children will have access to word mats and dictionaries as part of their everyday work in class. They will be given time to proofread their work and to use these resources to help them correct their misspellings.
- We also encourage the use of "try-pads" on tables, so that children can try out a spelling before writing it in their exercise book.