

Grammar & punctuation in Year 1

In Year 1, children will learn to write in sentences and to put together short narratives, as well as some basic rules around nouns and verbs. This includes:

- using capital letters, full stops, question marks, and exclamation marks
- turning nouns into their plural form using -s and -es
- adding suffixes to verbs where no change is needed in the spelling of the root word (for example, helping, helped, helper).

Year 1: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
Word	Regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es [for example, <i>dog, dogs; wish, wishes</i>], including the effects of these suffixes on the meaning of the noun Suffixes that can be added to verbs where no change is needed in the spelling of root words (e.g. <i>helping, helped, helper</i>) How the prefix un– changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives [negation, for example, <i>unkind</i> , or <i>undoing: untie the boat</i>]
Sentence	How words can combine to make sentences Joining words and joining clauses using <i>and</i>
Text	Sequencing sentences to form short narratives
Punctuation	Separation of words with spaces Introduction to capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences Capital letters for names and for the personal pronoun I
Terminology for pupils	letter, capital letter word, singular, plural sentence punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark

Grammar & punctuation in Year 2

In Year 2, children will learn to use different types of sentence, to use multiple tenses, and to use more complex suffixes. This includes:

- knowing and using statements, questions, exclamations, and commands
- using the present and past tenses, as well as the progressive form
- using suffixes like *-ness*, *-er*, *-est*, and *-ly*
- using apostrophes to mark where letters are missing and to mark possession

Year 2: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
Word	<p>Formation of nouns using suffixes such as <i>-ness</i>, <i>-er</i> and by compounding [for example, <i>whiteboard</i>, <i>superman</i>]</p> <p>Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as <i>-ful</i>, <i>-less</i></p> <p>(A fuller list of suffixes can be found in the year 2 spelling section in English Appendix 1)</p> <p>Use of the suffixes <i>-er</i>, <i>-est</i> in adjectives and the use of <i>-ly</i> in Standard English to turn adjectives into adverbs</p>
Sentence	<p>Subordination (using <i>when</i>, <i>if</i>, <i>that</i>, <i>because</i>) and co-ordination (using <i>or</i>, <i>and</i>, <i>but</i>)</p> <p>Expanded noun phrases for description and specification [for example, <i>the blue butterfly</i>, <i>plain flour</i>, <i>the man in the moon</i>]</p> <p>How the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command</p>
Text	<p>Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing</p> <p>Use of the progressive form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress [for example, <i>she is drumming</i>, <i>he was shouting</i>]</p>
Punctuation	<p>Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences</p> <p>Commas to separate items in a list</p> <p>Apostrophes to mark where letters are missing in spelling and to mark singular possession in nouns [for example, <i>the girl's name</i>]</p>
Terminology for pupils	<p>noun, noun phrase</p> <p>statement, question, exclamation, command</p> <p>compound, suffix</p> <p>adjective, adverb, verb</p> <p>tense (past, present)</p> <p>apostrophe, comma</p>

Grammar & punctuation in Year 3

In Year 3, children will learn to format text, to express time, place, and cause, and to use more complex word forms. This includes:

- using conjunctions, adverbs, and prepositions to express time, place, and cause
- using paragraphs, headings, and subheadings
- using the past perfect form.

Year 3: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
Word	Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes [for example <i>super-</i> , <i>anti-</i> , <i>auto-</i>] Use of the forms <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel [for example, <u>a</u> rock, <u>an</u> open box] Word families based on common words , showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, <i>solve</i> , <i>solution</i> , <i>solver</i> , <i>dissolve</i> , <i>insoluble</i>]
Sentence	Expressing time, place and cause using conjunctions [for example, <i>when</i> , <i>before</i> , <i>after</i> , <i>while</i> , <i>so</i> , <i>because</i>], adverbs [for example, <i>then</i> , <i>next</i> , <i>soon</i> , <i>therefore</i>], or prepositions [for example, <i>before</i> , <i>after</i> , <i>during</i> , <i>in</i> , <i>because of</i>]
Text	Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation Use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past [for example, <i>He has gone out to play</i> contrasted with <i>He went out to play</i>]
Punctuation	Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech
Terminology for pupils	preposition, conjunction word family, prefix clause, subordinate clause direct speech consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter inverted commas (or 'speech marks')

Grammar & punctuation in Year 4

In Year 4, children will learn to use more complex sentences, to write in different styles, and to use less common punctuation. This includes:

- writing noun phrases expanded by modifying adjectives, nouns, and preposition phrases
- using and understanding plural possession
- using Standard English forms for verb inflections where appropriate
- using inverted commas to indicate direct speech.

Year 4: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
Word	The grammatical difference between plural and possessive –s Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms [for example, <i>we were</i> instead of <i>we was</i> , or <i>I did</i> instead of <i>I done</i>]
Sentence	Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. <i>the teacher</i> expanded to: <i>the strict maths teacher with curly hair</i>) Fronted adverbials [for example, <i>Later that day, I heard the bad news.</i>]
Text	Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition
Punctuation	Use of inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech [for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within inverted commas: <i>The conductor shouted, “Sit down!”</i>] Apostrophes to mark plural possession [for example, <i>the girl’s name</i> , <i>the girls’ names</i>] Use of commas after fronted adverbials
Terminology for pupils	determiner pronoun, possessive pronoun adverbial

Grammar & punctuation in Year 5

In Year 5, children will learn to use more complex word forms and clauses, to use uncommon punctuation, and to build cohesion by linking ideas across a text. This includes:

- converting nouns or adjectives into verbs using suffixes like *-ate*, *-ise*, *-ify*
- using brackets, dashes, or commas to indicate parentheses
- linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time, place, and number.

Year 5: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
Word	Converting nouns or adjectives into verbs using suffixes [for example, <i>-ate</i> ; <i>-ise</i> ; <i>-ify</i>] Verb prefixes [for example, <i>dis-</i> , <i>de-</i> , <i>mis-</i> , <i>over-</i> and <i>re-</i>]
Sentence	Relative clauses beginning with <i>who</i> , <i>which</i> , <i>where</i> , <i>when</i> , <i>whose</i> , <i>that</i> , or an omitted relative pronoun Indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs [for example, <i>perhaps</i> , <i>surely</i>] or modal verbs [for example, <i>might</i> , <i>should</i> , <i>will</i> , <i>must</i>]
Text	Devices to build cohesion within a paragraph [for example, <i>then</i> , <i>after that</i> , <i>this</i> , <i>firstly</i>] Linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time [for example, <i>later</i>], place [for example, <i>nearby</i>] and number [for example, <i>secondly</i>] or tense choices [for example, he <i>had</i> seen her before]
Punctuation	Brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity
Terminology for pupils	modal verb, relative pronoun relative clause parenthesis, bracket, dash cohesion, ambiguity

Grammar & punctuation in Year 6

In Year 6, children will learn to use formal and informal language appropriately, to use a wide range of cohesive devices, and to use punctuation in new ways.

This includes:

- making use of the passive voice
- linking ideas across paragraphs with cohesive devices, such as repetition of a phrase, grammatical connections, or ellipses
- using semi-colons, colons, and dashes to mark the boundary between independent clauses
- using hyphens to avoid ambiguity.

Year 6: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)	
Word	The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for formal speech and writing [for example, <i>find out</i> – <i>discover</i> ; <i>ask for</i> – <i>request</i> ; <i>go in</i> – <i>enter</i>] How words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms [for example, <i>big</i> , <i>large</i> , <i>little</i>].
Sentence	Use of the passive to affect the presentation of information in a sentence [for example, <i>I broke the window in the greenhouse</i> versus <i>The window in the greenhouse was broken (by me)</i>]. The difference between structures typical of informal speech and structures appropriate for formal speech and writing [for example, the use of question tags: <i>He's your friend, isn't he?</i> , or the use of subjunctive forms such as <i>If I were</i> or <i>Were they to come</i> in some very formal writing and speech]
Text	Linking ideas across paragraphs using a wider range of cohesive devices : repetition of a word or phrase, grammatical connections [for example, the use of adverbials such as <i>on the other hand</i> , <i>in contrast</i> , or <i>as a consequence</i>], and ellipsis Layout devices [for example, headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or tables, to structure text]
Punctuation	Use of the semi-colon, colon and dash to mark the boundary between independent clauses [for example, <i>It's raining; I'm fed up</i>] Use of the colon to introduce a list and use of semi-colons within lists Punctuation of bullet points to list information How hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity [for example, <i>man eating shark</i> versus <i>man-eating shark</i> , or <i>recover</i> versus <i>re-cover</i>]
Terminology for pupils	subject, object active, passive synonym, antonym ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet points