

Lower Key Stage 2 **YEARS 3 and 4**  
LITERACY OBJECTIVES

**Spoken Language:**

**Pupils should be taught to:**

- a) listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- b) ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge
- c) use relevant strategies to build their vocabulary
- d) articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions
- e) give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes, including for expressing feelings
- f) maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments
- g) use spoken language to develop understanding
- h) speak audibly and fluently
- i) participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates
- j) gain, maintain and monitor the interest of the listener(s)
- k) consider and evaluate different viewpoints
- l) Select and use appropriate registers for effective communication.

**Word Recognition: Reading**

**Pupils should be taught to:**

- a) apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words they meet
- b) read further exception words, noting the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound, and where these occur in the word

**Reading Comprehension - Two sections - Developing positive attitudes in reading and understanding what is read**

**Pupils should be taught to:**

**1. Develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by:**

- a) listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
- b) reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
- c) using dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read
- d) increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books
- e) preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
- f) discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- g) recognising some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry]

**Reading Comprehension**

**2. understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:**

- a) checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context
- b) asking questions to improve their understanding of a text
- c) drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- d) predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
- e) identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
- f) identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning
- g) retrieve and record information from non-fiction
- h) participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say

## **Writing Transcription**

### **Spelling**

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- a) use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them
- b) spell further homophones
- c) spell words that are often misspelt
- d) place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words with irregular plurals [for example, children's]
- e) use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary
- f) write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far

## **Writing Transcription**

### **Handwriting**

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- a) 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
- b) 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].

## **Writing**

### **Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation**

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- develop their understanding of the concepts by:

- a) extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although
- b) using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense
- c) choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition
- d) using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause
- e) using fronted adverbials
- **indicate grammatical and other features by:**
  - f) using commas after fronted adverbials
  - g) indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns
  - h) using and punctuating direct speech
- **use and understand the grammatical terminology accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading**

#### Writing Composition:

#### **Pupils should be taught to:**

- **plan their writing by:**
  - a) discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar
  - b) discussing and recording ideas
- **draft and write by:**
  - c) composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures (
  - d) organising paragraphs around a theme
  - e) in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot
  - f) in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings]
- **evaluate and edit by:**
  - a) assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements

b) proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences

- **proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors**
- **read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear**

<p><b>WORD</b> Year 3</p>	<p><b>SENTENCE</b> Year 3</p>	<p><b>TEXT</b> Year 3</p>	<p><b>PUNCTUATION</b> Year 3</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes [for example super-, anti-, auto-]</li> <li>• Use of the forms a or an according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel [for example, a rock, an open</li> </ul>	<p>Expressing time, place and cause using</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conjunctions [for example, when, before, after, while, so, because],</li> <li>adverbs [for example, then, next, soon, therefore],</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material</li> <li>• Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation</li> <li>• Use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple</li> </ul>	<p>Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech</p> <hr/> <p><b>Terminology for Year 3</b></p> <p><b>preposition conjunction</b> <b>word family, prefix</b> <b>clause, subordinate clause</b> <b>direct speech</b></p>

<p>box]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, solve, solution, solver, dissolve, insoluble</li> </ul>	<p>*prepositions [for example, before, after, during, in, because of]</p>	<p>past [for example, He has gone out to play contrasted with He went out to play]</p>	<p><b>consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter</b> <b>inverted commas (or 'speech marks')</b></p>
<p><b>WORD</b> <b>Year 4</b></p>	<p><b>SENTENCE</b> <b>Year 4</b></p>	<p><b>TEXT</b> <b>Year 4</b></p>	<p><b>PUNCTUATION</b> <b>Year 4</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The grammatical difference between plural and possessive -s</li> <li>Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms [for example, we were instead of we was, or I did instead of I done]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. the teacher expanded to: the strict maths teacher with curly hair)</li> <li>Fronted adverbials [for example, Later that day, I heard the bad news.]</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme</li> <li>Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition</li> </ul> <p><b>Terminology for Year 4 (previous years and..)</b></p> <p><b>determiner</b> <b>pronoun, possessive pronoun</b> <b>adverbial</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech [for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within inverted commas: The conductor shouted, "Sit down!"]</li> <li>Apostrophes to mark plural possession [for example, the girl's name, the girls' names]</li> <li>Use of commas after fronted adverbials</li> </ul>

Year	GRAMMAR Objectives	Example	Terminology	Level of Importance*
3	Recognise simple sentences and begin to recognise compound and complex sentences	Encourage children to extend their sentences using joining words (conjunctions). They can join simple sentences (clauses) The boat arrived late and the man walked down the gangway. They can add a subordinate clause to a sentence When the rain stopped, the girls went back to the playground.	Sentence Conjunction	High
3	Use and recognise nouns, adjectives and adjectival phrases	Explain what a noun is, and how an adjective or adjectival phrase can modify the noun: Mrs Coles' house was noisy, loud and messy. Peter and Poppy, who were my age, looked after me very nicely.	Noun Adjective	High
3	Use powerful verbs Introduce the idea of a verb	Explain the concept of a verb and encourage children to use powerful verbs in their writing Not: I went out of the room but I stormed out of the room ... or I plodded out of the room I crept out of the room...	Verb	High
3	Introduce the idea of tense in verbs	Explain the concept of a verb and help children to recognise these. They also relate the tense of verbs used to the type of writing. E.g. narrative is usually past tense, description can be present tense. She ran along the road and saw the robber vanishing down a trapdoor. My friend has red hair, blue eyes and is always telling	Verb Past tense Present tense	Introduce - to consolidate in Year 4

		jokes.		
3	Use dialogue in narrative or in drama	Start by relating speech bubbles to speech marks. Make sure what is inside the speech bubble (marks) is what we or the characters SAY. "I'm hungry!" yelled the big, bad wolf. "Give me some FOOD!"	Inverted commas or speech marks Direct speech	High
3	Extend the range of sentences with more than one clause. Co-ordination: using 'and', 'or' and 'but' (compound) Subordination: using a wider range of conjunctions to add subordinate clauses (complex).	Extend children's use of longer sentences in their writing, so they frequently use sentences with at least one subordinate clause. Use joining words (conjunctions) such as: and, or, but, if, when, where, because, so, although, etc.	Conjunction Clause	High - to learn how to write complex sentences

Year	Grammar Objectives	Examples	Terminology	Level of importance*
4	Use adverbs to modify verbs	Children need to understand that we can not only say that something is done or happened, but also HOW. She went off happily to see her granny. He kicked the ball furiously into the wall.	Adverb	Medium
4	Use conjunctions to express time or cause	Extend children's use of complex sentences by encouraging them to think about how, when, where or why something was done or happened. Dad tripped on the stairs because the cat was lying there. When the film was over, we all went and had a meal.	Conjunction Clause Sentence Subordinate clause	High

		He was certainly still angry so the dogs thought it best to keep out of his sight for a while.		
4	Use prepositions to express time and place	<p>Help children make their writing more interesting by using prepositional phrases.</p> <p>With a heavy heart, the princess put the frog back in the pond.</p> <p>He kicked the ball right over the wall.</p>	Preposition Phrase	High (in terms of chn using such phrases in writing)
4	Person - understanding that writing can be third or first person	<p>Children need to become aware that writing can be 'She did this...' or 'I did this...'. We can write in the 3rd or the 1st person.</p> <p>The dog wandered down the street looking for cats and food.</p> <p>I wandered down the street looking for my dog.</p>	Verb	High
4	Use adverbs and adverbials (prepositional phrases which act as adverbs)	<p>Extend children's understanding of adverbs, showing them how to use a phrase to say HOW something is done or HOW it happened.</p> <p>He spoke crossly and in a loud voice to all the children.</p> <p>The dog ran with the lead in its mouth, down the street.</p>	Adverb	Medium
4	Use commas after or before phrases and clauses	<p>Introduce the idea of a 'short pause' which does not merit a new sentence but does require a comma. Show chn how we can use commas before or after phrases or clauses.</p> <p>After the door slammed, the class sat in total silence.</p> <p>As light as a bird, the glider disappeared into the clouds.</p>	Comma	Medium

Year	Grammar Objectives	Examples	Terminology	Level of importance*
4	Pronouns - using pronouns to avoid repetition or ambiguity and to add clarity and cohesion	<p>Encourage children to use pronouns to help them make sense and be clear:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Avoid repetition: While Sam watched the TV programme. Sam finished making his Lego spaceship.</li> <li>2. Avoid ambiguity: Mary wanted to help her granny and she was feeling very tired.</li> <li>3. Add to the cohesion: When she went to bed, Mog was feeling rather full of milk and cat food.</li> </ol>	Pronoun	Medium
4	Use dialogue in narrative or in drama, emphasising the differences between spoken and written speech.	<p>Extend children's use of dialogue, consolidating the use of speech punctuation and ensuring that what is in the speech marks is what is SAID, not what might be written.  E.g. We can use contracted forms, and we can use slang...  "Give me a break," sneered Tom, "You can't expect me to believe that!"  "Ger'off, you're hurting me," Sam told his younger brother.</p>	Inverted commas or speech marks Direct speech	High
4	Use the possessive apostrophe	<p>Use for singular and plural nouns.  Joanna's temper was rising fast.  He really wanted his brother's football shirt.  All the dogs' dinners had been stolen.</p>	Apostrophe	Medium

4	Use fronted adverbials	Extend children's use of adverbs by encouraging them to start their sentences with an adverbial. In total silence, the children tiptoed along the corridor. Without blinking, Max stared into all their yellow eyes.	Adverbial Phrase	Low
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