

Spelling Year 2

Revision of work from Year 1	As words with new GPCs are introduced, many previously-taught GPCs can be revised at the same time as these words will usually contain them.
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New work for Year 2		
Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
The /dʒ/ sound spelt as ge and dge at the end of words, and sometimes spelt as g elsewhere in words before e, i and y	The letter j is never used for the /dʒ/ (“dge”) sound at the end of English words. At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt –dge straight after the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sounds (sometimes called “short” vowels). After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as –ge at the end of a word. In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and y . The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o and u .	badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge age, huge, change, charge, bulge, village gem, giant, magic, giraffe, energy
The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y		race, ice, cell, city, fancy
The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words	The ‘k’ and ‘g’ at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago.	knock, know, knee, gnat, gnaw
The /ɹ/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words	This spelling probably also reflects an old pronunciation.	write, written, wrote, wrong, wrap
The /l/ or /əɫ/ sound spelt –le at the end of words	The –le spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	table, apple, bottle, little, middle
The /l/ or /əɫ/ sound spelt –el at the end of words	The –el spelling is much less common than –le . The –el spelling is used after m, n, r, s, v, w .	camel, tunnel, squirrel, tinsel, travel, towel
The /l/ or /əɫ/ sound spelt –al at the end of words	Not many nouns end in –al , but many adjectives do.	metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal
Words ending –il	There are not many of these words.	pencil, fossil, nostril
The /aɪ/ sound spelt –y at the end of words	This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July
Adding –es to nouns and verbs ending in consonant-letter–y	The y is changed to i before –es is added.	flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries
Adding –ed, –ing, –er and –est to root words ending in consonant-letter–y	The y is changed to i before –ed , –er and –est are added, but not before –ing as this would result in ii . The only ordinary words with ii are <i>skiing</i> and <i>taxiing</i> .	copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied ... but copying, crying, replying
Adding the endings –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words ending in vowel-letter–consonant-letter–e	The –e at the end of the root word is dropped before –ing , –ed , –er , –est , –y or any other suffix beginning with a vowel letter is added.	hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny

Adding –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter	The last consonant letter of the root word is doubled to keep the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sound (i.e. to keep the vowel ‘short’). Exception: The letter ‘x’ is never doubled: <i>mixing, mixed, boxer, sixes</i> .	patting, patted, humming, hummed, dropping, dropped, sadder, saddest, fatter, fattest, runner, runny
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before l and ll	The /ɔ:/ sound (“or”) is usually spelt as a before l and ll .	all, ball, call, walk, talk, always
The /ʌ/ sound spelt o		other, mother, brother, nothing, Monday
The /i:/ sound spelt –ey	The plural of these words is formed by the addition of –s (<i>donkeys, monkeys</i> etc.).	key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley
The /ɒ/ sound spelt a after w and qu	a is the most common spelling for the /ɒ/ (“hot”) sound after w and qu .	want, watch, wander, quantity, squash
The /ɜ:/ sound spelt or after w	Very few words spell the /ɜ:/ sound (“burn”) this way.	word, work, worm, world, worth
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w	Very few words spell the /ɔ:/ sound (“or”) this way.	war, warm, towards
The /ɜ/ sound spelt s		television, treasure, usual
The suffixes –ment, –ness, –ful and –less	If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words. Exceptions: (1) <i>argument</i> (2) root words ending in a consonant letter followed by y – see above.	enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness (plain + ness)
Contractions	In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. <i>can’t – cannot</i>). <i>It’s</i> means <i>it is</i> (e.g. <i>It’s</i> raining) or sometimes <i>it has</i> (e.g. <i>It’s</i> been raining), but <i>it’s</i> is never used for the possessive.	can’t, didn’t, hasn’t, couldn’t, it’s, I’ll
The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)		Megan’s, Ravi’s, the girl’s, the child’s, the man’s
Words ending in –tion		station, fiction, motion, national, section
Homophones and near-homophones	It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones.	there/their/they’re, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight
Common exception words	Some words are exceptions in some accents but not in others – e.g. <i>past, last, fast, path</i> and <i>bath</i> are not exceptions in accents where the a in these words is pronounced /æ/, as in <i>cat</i> . <i>Great, break</i> and <i>steak</i> are the only common words where the /eɪ/ sound is spelt ea . Note ‘children’ is not an exception, but is included for convenience with ‘child’.	door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children*, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas – and/or others according to programme used.