Getting it write, rite, right!

'No Nonsense Spelling' focuses on the teaching of spelling, embracing knowledge of spelling conventions- patterns and rules; but integral to the teaching is the opportunity to promote the learning of spellings, including statutory words, common exception words and words that children personally find difficult.

The programme has been broken down into half termly plans and spelling will be taught alongside grammar and punctuation at least 3 times weekly. Each lesson will be approximately 10 to 15 minutes long, but lesson plans are flexible so that the teaching can reflect the extra time needed on a teaching point if required.

The programme has been written broadly following a teaching sequence for spelling, whereby each new concept is taught, practised and then applied and assessed. By integrating activities for handwriting, the benefit of making a spelling activity kinaesthetic is secured. Children will acquire the physical memory of the spelling pattern as well as the visual.

There is a high expectation within the National Curriculum 2014 that pupils will learn many increasingly complex words. Within the programme, learning spelling patterns is built into each six-week block. Within the sessions a range of strategies for learning spellings are introduced and practiced. This enables pupils to choose the strategies they find most effective for learning different words.

	1
Look, say, cover, write, check	This is probably the most common strategy used to learn spellings. Look: first look at the whole word carefully and if there is one part of the word that is difficult, look at that part in more detail. Say: say the word as you look at it, using different ways of pronouncing it if that will make it more memorable. Cover: cover the word. Write: write the word from memory, saying the word as you do so. Check: Have you got it right? If yes, try writing it again and again! If not, start again – look, say, cover, write, check.
Trace, copy and replicate (and then check)	This is a similar learning process to 'look, say, cover, write, check' but is about developing automaticity and muscle memory. Write the word out on a sheet of paper ensuring that it is spelt correctly and it is large enough to trace over. Trace over the word and say it at the same time. Move next to the word you have just written and write it out as you say it. Turn the page over and write the word as you say it, and then check that you have spelt it correctly. If this is easy, do the same process for two different words at the same time. Once you have written all your words this way and feel confident, miss out the tracing and copying or the tracing alone and just write the words.
Segmentation strategy	The splitting of a word into its constituent phonemes in the correct order to support spelling.
Quickwrite	Writing the words linked to the teaching focus with speed and fluency. The aim is to write as many words as possible within a time constraint. Pupils can write words provided by the teacher or generate their own examples. For example, in two minutes write as many words as possible with the /i:/ phoneme. This can be turned into a variety of competitive games including working in teams and developing relay race approaches.
Drawing around the word to show the shape	Draw around the words making a clear distinction in size where there are ascenders and descenders. Look carefully at the shape of the word and the letters in each box. Now try to write the word making sure that you get the same shape.

Drawing an image around the word	This strategy is all about making a word memorable. It links to meaning in order to try to make the spelling noticeable. You can't use this method as your main method of learning spellings, but it might work on those that are just a little more difficult to remember.
Words without vowels	This strategy is useful where the vowel choices are the challenge in the words. Write the words without the vowels and pupils have to choose the correct grapheme to put in the space. For example, for the word <i>field</i> :
Pyramid words	This method of learning words forces you to think of each letter separately. p py pyr pyra pyram pyrami pyramid You can then reverse the process so that you end up with a diamond.
Other methods can include: Rainbow writing. Using coloured pencils in different ways can help to of words memorable. You could highlight the tricky parts of the word tricky part in a different colour. You could also write each letter in a directly colour, or write the word in red, then overlay in orange, yellow and so Making up memorable 'silly sentences' containing the word Saying the word in a funny way – for example, pronouncing the 'silen letters in a word Clapping and counting to identify the syllables in a word.	

Year 4 National Curriculum requirements

Pupils should be taught to

- develop a range of personal strategies for learning new and irregular words*
- develop a range of personal strategies for spelling at the point of composition*
- develop a range of strategies for checking and proofreading spellings after writing*
- use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them (English Appendix 1)
- spell further homophones
- spell words that are often misspelt (English Appendix 1)
- place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals (for example, *girls*', *boys*') and in words with irregular plurals (for example, *children*'s)
- use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary
- write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far
- proofread for spelling errors.

^{*} non-statutory

Year 4 lesson plans

Year 4 Term 1 overview

Block 1 – autumn first half term

Week 1	Lesson 1 Revise Strategies at the point of writing: Have a go	Lesson 2 Assess Strategies for learning words: words from statutory spelling list	Lesson 3 Learn Words from statutory and personal spelling lists
Week 2	Lesson 4 Teach Words ending /ʒə/	Lesson 5 Practise Words ending /ʒə/	
Week 3	Lesson 6 Assess Words ending /ʒə/	Lesson 7 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 8 Teach From Year 2: possessive apostrophe with singular proper nouns
Week 4	Lesson 9 Revise from Year 3 From Year 2: possessive apostrophe with singular proper nouns	Lesson 10 Teach Homophones (peace/piece, main/mane, fair/fare)	
Week 5	Lesson 11 Practise Homophones (peace/piece, main/mane, fair/fare)	Lesson 12 Apply Strategies for learning words: homophones (peace/piece, main/mane, fair/fare)	Lesson 13 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists
Week 6	Lesson 14 Practise Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 15 Assess Words from statutory and personal spelling lists: pair testing	

Block 2 – autumn second half term

Week 1	Lesson 1 Revise Strategies for learning words: words from statutory list learnt previously Strategies at the point of writing: Have a go	Lesson 2 Revise Strategies for learning words: words from statutory list learnt previously Strategies at the point of writing: Have a go	Lesson 3 Teach Proofreading
Week 2	Lesson 4 Teach Prefixes 'in-', 'il-', 'im-' and 'ir-'	Lesson 5 Practise Prefixes 'in-', 'il-', 'im-' and 'ir-'	
Week 3	Lesson 6 Apply Prefixes 'in-', 'il-', 'im-' and 'ir-'	Lesson 7 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 8 Assess Words from statutory and personal spelling lists: pair testing
Week 4	Lesson 9 Revise Words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt 'ei', 'eigh' or 'ey' Words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt 'ch' and the /ʌ/ sound spelt 'ou'	Lesson 10 Practise/Apply Words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt 'ei', 'eigh' or 'ey' Words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt 'ch' and the /ʌ/ sound spelt 'ou'	
Week 5	Lesson 11 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 12 Assess Words from statutory and personal spelling lists: pair testing	
Week 6	Lesson 13 Teach Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable ('-ing', '-er', '-en', '-ed')	Lesson 14 Practise Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable ('-ing', '-er', '-en', '-ed')	Lesson 15 Apply Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable ('-ing', '-er', '-en', '-ed')

Year 4 Term 2 overview

Block 3 – spring first half term

Week	Lesson 1 Teach The /g/ sound spelt 'gu'	Lesson 2 Practise The /g/ sound spelt 'gu'	Lesson 3 Learn Strategies for learning
1			words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists
Week 2	Lesson 4 Teach Words with endings sounding like /tʃə/ spelt '- ture'	Lesson 5 Practise Words with endings sounding like /tʃə/ spelt '- ture'	
Week 3	Lesson 6 Assess Words with endings sounding like /tʃə/ spelt '- ture': dictation	Lesson 7 Learn Strategies for learning words: selected words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 8 Teach Possessive apostrophe with plurals
Week 4	Lesson 9 Practise Possessive apostrophe with plurals	Lesson 10 Teach Homophones (scene/seen, mail/male, bawl/ball)	
Week 5	Lesson 11 Practise Strategies for learning words: homophones (scene/seen, mail/male, bawl/ball)	Lesson 12 Apply Homophones (scene/seen, mail/male, bawl/ball)	Lesson 13 Assess Words already learnt from the statutory spelling test
Week 6	Lesson 14 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 15 Assess Error Analysis (teacher to do)	

Block 4 – spring second half term

Week	Lesson 1 Assess	Lesson 2 Revise	Lesson 3 Teach
1	Statutory spellings learnt so far	Strategies at the point of writing: Have a go	Proofreading
Week 2	Lesson 4 Teach Prefixes 'anti-' and 'inter-'	Lesson 5 Practise Prefixes 'anti-' and 'inter-'	
Week 3	Lesson 6 Assess Prefixes 'anti-' and 'inter-'	Lesson 7 Learn Strategies for learning words: selected words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 8 Assess Spellings learnt so far
Week 4	Lesson 9 Teach Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt '-cian', '-sion', '-tion' and '-ssion'	Lesson 10 Practise Strategies at the point of writing: Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt '-cian', '-sion', '-tion' and '-ssion'	
Week 5	Lesson 11 Assess Strategies at the point of writing: Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt '-cian', '-sion', '-tion' and '-ssion'	Lesson 12 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 13 Assess Spellings learnt so far this term
Week 6	Lesson 14 Revise/Assess Spellings taught so far	Lesson 15 Revise/Assess Spellings taught so far	

Year 4 Term 3 overview

Block 5 – Summer first half term

Week 1	Lesson 1 Teach Words with the /s/ sound spelt 'sc' (Latin in origin)	Lesson 2 Practise Words with the /s/ sound spelt 'sc' (Latin in origin)	Lesson 3 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists Strategies at the point of writing: Have a go
Week 2	Lesson 4 Teach Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt 'sion'	Lesson 5 Practise Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt 'sion'	
Week 3	Lesson 6 Assess Endings that sound like /ʃən/ spelt 'sion'	Lesson 7 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 8 Revise Apostrophes for possession, including singular and plural
Week 4	Lesson 9 Practise Apostrophes for possession, including singular and plural	Lesson 10 Teach Homophones	
Week 5	Lesson 11 Practise Homophones	Lesson 12 Apply Homophones	Lesson 13 Assess Statutory words learnt during the year
Week 6	Lesson 14 Revise/Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory list that need further learning	Lesson 15 Revise/Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory list that need further learning	

Block 6 – summer second half term

Week 1	Lesson 1 Teach Suffix '-ous'	Lesson 2 Practise Suffix '-ous'	Lesson 3 Apply Suffix '-ous'
Week 2	Lesson 4 Practise Proofreading	Lesson 5 Revise Prefixes 'un-', 'dis-', 'in-', 're-', 'sub-', 'inter-', 'super-', 'anti-', 'auto-'	Lesson 6 Practise/Apply Prefixes 'un-', 'dis-', 'in-', 're-', 'sub-', 'inter-', 'super-', 'anti-', 'auto-'
Week 3	Lesson 7 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 8 Assess Words learnt so far	
Week 4	Lesson 9 Teach/Revise from Year3 Suffix '-ly' added to words ending in 'y', 'le' and 'ic'	Lesson 10 Practise Suffix '-ly' added to words ending in 'y', 'le' and 'ic'	
Week 5	Lesson 11 Assess Suffix '-ly' added to words ending in 'y', 'le' and 'ic'	Lesson 12 Learn Strategies for learning words: words from statutory and personal spelling lists	Lesson 13 Assess Words learnt so far
Week 6	Lesson 14 Revise Work covered this term	Lesson 15 Revise Work covered this term	

Statutory word list for Years 3 and 4

accident(ally) actual(ly) address answer appear arrive believe bicycle breath breathe build busy/business calendar caught centre century certain circle

complete consider continue decide describe

different (Phase 5) difficult disappear

early earth

eight (h)/eighth

enough exercise experience experiment extreme famous favourite

February forward(s)

fruit

grammar group guard guide heard(h) heart height history imagine increase important interest

knowledge

island

learn length library material medicine mention minute natural naughty notice

occasion(ally)

often opposite ordinary particular peculiar perhaps popular position

possess(ion)

possible potatoes pressure probably promise quarter question recent regular reign (h) remember sentence separate special straight strange strength suppose surprise therefore

though/although thought (Phase 5) through (Phase 5) (h)

various weight (h)

woman/women