

### Intent

At Harrow Gate Primary Academy, our intent is to enable children to develop the skills to become strong spellers as this aids **communication, literacy and future employment**. Communication skills are essential for children to grow and interact successfully with the world thus helping with employment.

The art of **correctly assembling words** from their letters, is one of the **essential components** of successful writing. Learners who feel confident with letters and word patterns are able to read and **comprehend** more **complex texts**.

We have adopted the SCODE spelling scheme for all children who have passed their phonics screening in Year 2. The scheme teaches the spelling requirements of the National Curriculum for years 2-6 by teaching children the **Advanced English Phonic Code**.

*The National Curriculum (2013) states; 'The rules and guidance are intended to support the teaching of spelling. Phonic knowledge should continue to underpin spelling after key stage 1; teachers should still draw pupils' attention to GPCs that do and do not fit in with what has been taught so far. Increasingly, however, pupils also need to understand the role of morphology and etymology'.*

### Implementation

Within our SCODE lessons we use various strategies to develop children's confidence and skills as spellers: Providing four times weekly sessions for pupils in Year 2, 3 & 4 and three weekly in Year 5 & 6. All lessons are explicitly taught using the spelling content and curriculum words sorted by sound and code in accordance with the requirements of The National Curriculum for England 2014 (Y1 to Y6).

Throughout the spelling process, children are encouraged to **orally rehearse** and **smash down words**. This means giving children the opportunity to practise before they write by clapping out the syllables, saying the word out loud before they commit it to paper in their book.

Once a word/spelling pattern is taught children are expected to use it correctly in their written work – with scaffolds and reminders where appropriate. Spelling words will be **explicitly taught**; sessions will include instruction on meaning, etymology, use and pronunciation. Time will be given daily for **practice**.

### Impact

Assessment has been distributed across time and activity. It is often hidden from children but designed in a way that you can quickly and easily assess if progress is being made. Careful and considerate teaching and **frequent practice** of spellings will lead to children developing overall English skills and becoming confident spellers. Spelling is a **crucial component of communication, literacy and future employment**

