Progression in Grammar



Primary English

Education Consultancy

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About this resource...

This document is intended to help teachers identify the requirements for vocabulary, grammar and punctuation by year group. The document identifies what should be taught in each year group by linking the programme of study for 'Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation' to English Appendix 2. Skills progression from years 1 to 6 is clearly presented in the document along with a set of minimum requirements for each group.

The organisation of the resource...

The document is divided into three parts. The first is an overview of English Appendix 2 presented in a tabulated form. This enables teachers to see the skills for vocabulary, grammar and punctuation as a progression of skills from year 1 to year 6

The second part of the document combines the specific elements of English Appendix 2 for each year group and the Programme of study for 'Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation'. This is particularly useful for teachers in years 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 where the programme of study spans two year groups. To help teachers *we have identified the relevant objectives for each group from the programmes of study for 'Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation'*.

The final part of the document presents the key skills for children by year group. This is useful for setting minimum expectations for written work in each year of the school.

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Progression in grammar and punctuation English Appendix 2: Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation

	Word	Sentence	Text	Punctuation	Terminology for pupils
1	Regular plural noun suffixes -s or -es (e.g. dog, dogs; wish, wishes) Suffixes that can be added to verbs where no change is needed in the spelling of root words (e.g. helping, helped, helper) How the prefix un- changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives (negation, e.g. unkind, or undoing, e.g. untie the boat)	How words can combine to make sentences Joining words and joining clauses using and	Sequencing sentences to form short narratives	Separation of words with spaces Introduction to capital letters, full stops, question makes to demarcate sentences Capital letters for names and for the personal pronoun <i>I</i>	letter capital letter word singular Plural sentence punctuation full stop question mark exclamation mark
2	Formation of nouns using suffixes such as <i>-ness</i> , <i>-er</i> and by compounding [for example, <i>whiteboard</i> , <i>superman</i>] Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as <i>-ful</i> , <i>-less</i> (A fuller list of suffixes can be found in English Appendix 1) Use 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	Subordination (using when, if, that or because) and coordination (using or, and, or but) Expanded noun phrases for description and specification [for example the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon] How the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command	Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing. Use the progressive form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress [for example, <i>she is</i> <i>drumming, he was shouting</i>]	Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences Commas to separate items in a list Apostrophes to mark where letters are missing in spelling and to mark singular possession in nouns [for example, <i>the girl's name</i>]	noun, noun phrase statement, questions exclamation, command compound, adjective, verb suffix adverb tense (past, present) apostrophe comma

3	Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes , such as <i>super-, anti-, auto-</i> Use of forms <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel (<i>e.g.</i> <u><i>a</i></u> <i>rock</i> , <u><i>an</i></u> <i>open box</i>) Word families based on common words , showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, <i>solve, solution,</i> <i>solver, dissolve, insoluble</i>]	Expressing time , place and cause using conjunctions (for example, when, so, before, after, while, because] adverbs [for example, then, next, soon, therefore] or prepositions (for example, before, after, during, in because of)	Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation Use of the perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past [for example, <i>He has</i> <i>gone out to play</i> contrasted with <i>He went out to play</i>]	Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech	Adverb preposition, conjunction word family, prefix clause, subordinate clause, direct speech consonant, consonant letter, vowel, vowel letter inverted commas (or 'speech marks')
4	The grammatical difference between plural and possessive –s Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms (<i>we were</i> instead of <i>we was, I did</i> instead of <i>I done</i>)	Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. <i>the</i> <i>teacher expanded to: the</i> <i>strict maths teacher with</i> <i>curly hair</i>) Fronted adverbials (e.g. <u>Later that day</u> , I heard the bad news.)	Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition	Use of inverted commas and other punctuatio n to indicate [for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation with inverted commas: <i>The conductor</i> <i>shouted, "Sit down!"</i>] Apostrophes to mark plural possession [for example, <i>the</i> <i>girl's name, the girls' name</i>] The use of commas after fronted adverbials	Determiner pronoun, possessive pronoun adverbial

5	Converting nouns or adjectives into verbs using suffixes [for example – <i>ate;</i> <i>-ise; -ify</i>] Verb prefixes [for example <i>dis-, de-, mis-, over-,</i> and <i>re-</i>)	Relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, why, whose, that, or an omitted relative pronoun Indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs [for example, perhaps, surely] or modal verbs [for example, might, should, will, must]	Devices to build cohesion within a paragraph [for example, <i>then, after that,</i> <i>this, firstly</i>] Linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time [for example, later], place [for example, nearby] and number [for example, secondly] or tense choices [for example, he had seen her before]	Brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity	modal verb, relative pronoun relative clause parenthesis, bracket, dash cohesion, ambiguity
6	The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for formal speech and writing [for example, <i>find out – discover;</i> <i>ask for – request; go in –</i> <i>enter</i>] How words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms [for example, <i>big,</i> <i>large, little</i>]	Use of the passive voice to affect the presentation of information in a sentence [for example, <i>I broke the</i> <i>window in the green house</i> versus <i>The window in the</i> <i>greenhouse was broken(by</i> <i>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 e.g. <i>He's your friend,</i> <i>isn't he?</i> Or the use of the subjunctive forms such as <i>If I</i> <u>were</u> or <u>Were they</u> to come in some very formal writing and speech]	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 on the other hand, in contrast, or as a consequence), and ellipsis Layout devices [for example, headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or tables, to structure text]	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 a colon to introduce a list 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>]	Subject, object active, passive synonym, antonym ellipsis hyphen colon semi-colon bullet points

Word	Sentence	Text		Punctuation	Terminology for pupils
Regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es (e.g. dog, dogs; wish, wishes) 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 <i>un</i> - changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives (negation, <i>e.g. unkind</i> , or <i>undoing</i> , <i>e.g. untie the boat</i>)	How words can combine to make sentences Joining words and joining clauses using <i>and</i>	Sequencing sentences to form short narratives		Separation of words with spaces Introduction to capital letters, full stops, question makes to demarcate sentences Capital letters for names and for the personal pronoun /	letter capital letter word singular Plural sentence punctuation full stop question mark exclamation mark
 Year 1 programme of study (statutory requirements) Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation Pupils should be taught to: Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in Appendix 2 by: Leaving spaces between words Joining words and joining sentences using and Beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark Using a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I' Learning the grammar for year 1 in English Appendix 2 Use the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 in discussing their writing 			Writing – vocabu Pupils should be to use the vocabu their writing is di Pupils should beg	ulary listed in English Appendix 2	features of Standard English in

Word	Sentence	Text	Punctuation	Terminology for
				pupils
Formation of nouns using suffixes such as <i>—ness, -er</i> and by compounding [for example, <i>whiteboard, superman</i>] Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as <i>—ful, -less</i> (A fuller list of suffixes can be found in English Appendix 1)	Subordination (using when, if, that or because) and coordination (using or, and, or but) Expanded noun phrases for description and specification [for example the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon]	Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing. Use the progressive form of verbs in the	Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences Commas to separate items in a list	noun, noun phrase statement, questions exclamation, command compound, adjective, verb suffix adverb
Use the suffixes – <i>er, est</i> in adjectives and the use of - <i>ly</i> in Standard English to turn adjectives into adverbs	How the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command	present and past tense to mark actions in progress [for example, she is drumming, he was shouting]	Apostrophes to mark where letters are missing in spelling and to mark singular possession in nouns [for example, <i>the girl's</i> <i>name</i>]	tense (past, present) apostrophe comma
Year 2 programme of study (statutory requ Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctu	Notes and guidance (non-statutory) Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation			
 Pupils should be taught to: Develop their understanding of the Learning how to use both faincluding full stops, capital apostrophes for contracted Learn how to use: 	The terms for discussing language embedded for pupils in the cours their writing with them. Their atte drawn to the technical terms they	e of discussing ention should be		
 Sentences with diff Expanded noun phy Subordination (usine but) the grammar for yee some features of w Use and understand the grammatic 				

Year 3

Word Sentence Text			Punctuation	Terminology for pupils	
Formation of nouns using a range of	Expressing time ,	Introduction to paragraphs as a		Introduction to	Adverb preposition,
prefixes, such as super-, anti-, auto-	place and cause using	way to gr	oup related material	inverted commas to	conjunction
	conjunctions (for			punctuate direct	word family, prefix
Use of forms <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether	example, when, so,	Headings	and sub-headings to	speech	clause, subordinate clause,
the next word begins with a consonant or a	before, after, while,	aid prese	ntation		direct speech
vowel (e.g. <u>a</u> rock, <u>an</u> open box)	because] adverbs				consonant, consonant letter,
	[for example, then,		e perfect form of		vowel, vowel letter
Word families based on common words,	next, soon, therefore]		ead of the simple past		inverted commas (or 'speech
showing how words are related in form and	or prepositions (for	-	ple, He has gone out		marks')
meaning [for example, solve, solution,	example, <i>before</i> ,		ntrasted with He went		
solver, dissolve, insoluble]	after, during, in	out to pla	y]		
	because of)				
YEAR 3 OBJECTIVES			Notes and guidance (non statutory)		
Years 3-4 programme of study (statutory require	-		Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation		
Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuati	on				
Dupile should be tought to			Grammar should be taught explicitly: pupils should be taught the terminology		
Pupils should be taught to:	aanta aat aut in English Ar	an an div O			d be able to apply them correctly
 Develop their understanding of the con- by: 	Lepts set out in English Ap	penuix z		nguage, such as their owr	n writing or books that they have
 Extending the range of sentence 	es with more than one cla	ause hv	read.		
using a wider range of conjunct		•			
although		,	At this stage, pupils should start to learn about some of the differences between		
 Using the present perfect form 	of verbs in contrast to the	e past	Standard English and non-Standard English and begin to apply what they have learnt [for example, in writing dialogue for characters].		
tense			l learnt [for example, in	writing dialogue for chai	racters].
 Using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and 					
cause					
 Learning the grammar for years 3 and 4 in English Appendix 2 					
 Indicate grammatical and other features by: 					
 Using and punctuating direct sp 					
 Use and understand the grammatical te 					
accurately and appropriately when disc					

Word	Sentence	Text		Punctuation	Terminology for pupils
The grammatical difference between plural and possessive –s Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms (<i>we</i> <i>were</i> instead of <i>we was</i> , <i>I</i> <i>did</i> instead of <i>I done</i>)	Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. <i>the</i> <i>teacher expanded to: the strict</i> <i>maths teacher with curly hair</i>) Fronted adverbials (e.g. <u>Later</u> <u>that day</u> , I heard the bad news.)	dition of modifying jectives, nouns and eposition phrases (e.g. the acher expanded to: the strict aths teacher with curly hair)organise ideas around a themeAppropriate choice of pronoun or noun across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetitionorganise ideas around a theme		Use of inverted commas and other punctuatio n to indicate [for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation with inverted commas: <i>The</i> <i>conductor shouted, "Sit down!"</i>] Apostrophes to mark plural possession [for example, <i>the girl's name, the girls' name</i>]	Determiner pronoun, possessive pronoun adverbial
 Writing – vocabulary, gramm Pupils should be taught to: Develop their unders by: Choosing no and to avoid Using fronte Learning the Indicate grammatical Using comm Indicating po singular and 	 AR 4 OBJECTIVES ars 3-4 programme of study (statutory requirements) iting – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation bils should be taught to: Develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English Appendix 2 by: Choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition Using fronted adverbials Learning the grammar for years 3 and 4 in English Appendix 2 Indicate grammatical and other features by: Using commas after fronted adverbials Indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with the singular and plural nouns 		Writing - Gramma and cond to examp read. At this st Standard	The use of commas after fronted adverbials ad guidance (non statutory) - vocabulary, grammar and punctuation r should be taught explicitly: pupils should be ta cepts set out in English Appendix 2, and be able bles of real language, such as their own writing age, pupils should start to learn about some of I English and non-Standard English and begin to or example, in writing dialogue for characters].	to apply them correctly or books that they have the differences between

Word	Sentence	Text		Punctuation	Terminology for pupils
Converting nouns or	Converting nouns or Relative clauses beginning <i>with who,</i> Devices to bui		uild cohesion within a paragraph	Brackets, dashes or	modal verb, relative
adjectives into verbs	which, where, why, whose, that, or an	[for example	, then, after that, this, firstly]	commas to indicate	pronoun
using suffixes [for	omitted relative pronoun			parenthesis	relative clause
example <i>—ate; -ise; -ify]</i>		Linking ideas	across paragraphs using		parenthesis, bracket,
	Indicating degrees of possibility using	adverbials of	f time [for example, later], place	Use of commas to	dash
Verb prefixes [for	adverbs [for example, perhaps,	[for example	, nearby] and number [for	clarify meaning or	cohesion, ambiguity
example dis-, de-, mis-,	<i>surely</i>] or modal verbs [for example,	example, sec	condly] or tense choices [for	avoid ambiguity	
over-, and re-)	might, should, will, must]	example, he	had seen her before]		
YEAR 5 OBJECTIVES			Notes and guidance (non-statut	ory)	
Year 5-6 programme of stu	udy (statutory requirements)		Writing – vocabulary, grammar o	and punctuation	
Writing – vocabulary, gram	nmar and punctuation				
			Pupils should continue to add to their knowledge of linguistic terms, including		
Pupils should be taught to:			those to describe grammar, so that they can discuss their writing and reading.		
 Develop their under 	erstanding of the concepts set out in Eng	lish			
Appendix 2 by:					
 Using the provide the provided the provided	perfect form of verbs to mark relationshi	ps of time			
and cause					
 Using mod 	al verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees o	of possibility			
 Using relat 	ive clauses beginning with who, which, v	vhere, why,			
whose, tha	at or with an implied (i.e. omitted) relativ	e pronoun			
 Learning the grammar for years 5 and 6 in English Appendix 2 					
 Indicate grammatical and other features by: 					
 Using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing 					
 Using brac 	 Using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis 				
 Use and understand the grammatical terminology in Appendix 2 					
accurately and app	propriately in discussing writing and read	ing			

Year 6

Word	Sentence	Text	Punctuation	Terminolog y for pupils		
The difference between	Use of the passive voice to affect the	Linking ideas across paragraphs	Use of the semi-colon, colon and dash	Subject,		
vocabulary typical of	presentation of information in a sentence	using a wider range of cohesive	to mark the boundary between	object		
informal speech and	[for example, I broke the window in the	devices: repetition of a word or	independent clauses [for example, <i>It's</i>	active,		
vocabulary appropriate for	green house versus The window in the	phrase, grammatical connections	raining; I'm fed up]	passive		
formal speech and writing	greenhouse was broken(by me)]	[for example, the use of		synonym,		
[for example, find out –		adverbials such as on the other	Use of a colon to introduce a list	antonym		
discover; ask for – request;	The difference between structures typical	hand, in contrast, or as a		ellipsis		
go in – enter]	of informal speech and structures	consequence), and ellipsis	Punctuation of bullet points to list	hyphen		
-	appropriate for formal speech and writing		information	colon		
How words are related by	[for example, the use of question tags e.g.	Layout devices [for example,		semi-colon		
meaning as synonyms and	He's your friend, isn't he? Or the use of the	headings, sub-headings,	How hyphens can be used to avoid	bullet		
antonyms [for example,	subjunctive forms such as If I were or	columns, bullets, or tables, to	ambiguity [for example <i>man eating</i>	points		
big, large, little]	<u>Were they</u> to come in some very formal	structure text]	shark versus man-eating shark, or			
	writing and speech]		recover versus re-cover]			
YEAR 6 OBJECTIVES			Notes and guidance (non-statutory)			
Year 5-6 programme of study			Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation			
Writing – vocabulary, gram	mar and punctuation					
			Pupils should continue to add to their ki	-		
Pupils should be taught to:	estanding of the concepts out out in English An	nendiu 2 huu	linguistic terms, including those to desc			
-	standing of the concepts set out in English Ap		grammar, so that they can discuss their	writing and		
	vocabulary and structures that are appropria	te for formal speech and writing,	reading.			
-	bjunctive forms	•••••				
	ve verbs to affect the presentation of informat					
 Using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely Using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility 						
-						
• Learning the grammar for years 5 and 6 in English Appendix 2						
•	al and other features by:					
e //	ens to avoid ambiguity					
	colons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries k					
-	n to introduce a list					
 Punctuating bullet points consistently 						
 Use and understand the grammatical terminology in Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately in 						
discussing writing and reading						

Quick reference of minimum expectations by year group

Year 1 Regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es Suffixes that can be added to verbs How the prefix un- changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives How words can combine to make sentences Joining words and joining sentences using and Separation of words with spaces Capital letters, full stops, question makes to demarcate sentences Capital letters for names and for the personal pronoun	Year 4 Plural and possessive –s Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within a sentence Fronted adverbials Inverted commas to punctuate direct speech Apostrophes to mark singular and plural possession
Year 2 Formation of nouns using suffixes-ness, -er Formation of adjectives using suffixes -ful, -less Use the suffixes -er and -est to form comparisons of adjectives and adverbs Subordination (when, if, that or because) and coordination (or, and, or but) Expanded noun phrases Statements, question, exclamation, and commands Capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks Commas to separate items in a list Apostrophes to mark contracted spellings	Year 5 Converting nouns or adjectives into verbs using suffixes Verb prefixes (e.g. <i>dis-, de-, mis-, over-,</i> and <i>re-</i>) Relative clauses beginning <i>with who, which, where, why, whose, that,</i> or an omitted pronoun Indicating degrees of possibility using modal verbs or adverbs Brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity
 Year 3 Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes, such as super-, anti-, auto- Use the forms a or an according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel Word families based on common words Conjunctions (e.g. when, so, before, after, while, because) Adverbs (e.g. then, next, soon, therefore) Prepositions (e.g. before, after, during, in because of) The introduction of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple pasr Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech 	Year 6 The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for formal speech and writing Use of the passive voice to affect the presentation of information in a sentence Expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely The difference between structures typical of informal speech and structures appropriate for formal speech and writing Use of the semi-colon, colon and dash to mark the boundary between independent clauses Use of a colon to introduce a list Punctuation of bullet points to list information How hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity