Progression in Writing

EYFS Statutory Educational Programme

Literacy It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) starts from birth. It only develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together. Skilled word reading, taught later, involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Writing involves transcription (spelling and handwriting) and composition (articulating ideas and structuring them in speech, before writing).

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Transcription: Spelling	(DM 2020: Literacy) Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: - spot and suggest rhymes	(DM 2020: Literacy) Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them.	Spelling (see English Appendix 1) Pupils should be taught to:	Spelling (see English Appendix 1) Pupils should be taught to	Spelling (see English Appendix 1) Pupils should be taught to:	Spelling (see English Appendix 1) Pupils should be taught to:
	- count or clap syllables in a word	Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short	spell:	spell by:	Tuping should be taught to:	 use further prefixes and
	- recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother (DM 2020: Communication	words made up of known letter– sound correspondences. Read some letter groups	-words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught -common exception words	segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling many correctly	use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them (English Appendix 1)	suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them spell some words with
	and Language) Develop their communication, but may continue to have problems	that each represent one sound and say sounds for them. Read some letter groups	 the days of the week name the letters of the alphabet: 	learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already.	 spell further homophones spell words that are 	'silent' letters [for example, knight, psalm, solemn]
	with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'. Develop their pronunciation	that each represent one sound and say sounds for them.	-naming the letters of the alphabet in order	spellings are already known, and learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones	often misspelt (English Appendix 1) • place the possessive apostrophe accurately	continue to distinguish between homophones and other words which are often confused
	but may have problems saying: - some sounds: r, j, th, ch, and sh - multi-syllabic words such as 'pterodactyl', 'planetarium' or	Read a few common exception words matched to the school's phonic programme.	- using letter names to distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound	learning to spell common exception words learning to spell more words with contracted	in words with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words with irregular	use knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that the
	'hippopotamus'. Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.	add prefixes and suffixes:	forms • learning the possessive	plurals [for example, children's] • use the first two or	spelling of some words needs to be learnt specifically, as listed in English Appendix 1	
		Early Learning Goals	-using the spelling rule for adding –s or –es as the plural marker for nouns and	apostrophe (singular) [for example, the girl's book] distinguishing between	three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary	use dictionaries to check the spelling and
		Literacy				meaning of words

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	LG: Writing	the third person singular	homophones and near	 write from memory 	
	Children at the expected	marker for verbs	homophones	simple sentences,	 use the first three or
	evel of development will: -			dictated by the teacher,	four letters of a word to
	Vrite recognisable letters,	-using the prefix un–	 add suffixes to spell 	that include words and	check spelling, meaning
	nost of which are correctly		longer words, including –	punctuation taught so	or both of these in a
	ormed;	-using –ing, –ed, –er and –	ment, –ness, –ful, –less, –	far.	dictionary
- 5	Spell words by identifying	est where no change is	ly		
sc	ounds in them and	needed in the spelling of			 use a thesaurus.
	epresenting the sounds	root words [for example,			
	vith a letter or letters;	helping, helped, helper,	 apply spelling rules and 		
-1	Write simple phrases and	eating, quicker, quickest]	guidance, as listed in		
se	entences that can be read		English Appendix 1		
by	y others.	 apply simple spelling 			
		rules and guidance, as	 write from memory 		
		listed in English	simple sentences		
		Appendix 1	dictated by the teacher		
			that include words using		
		 write from memory 	the GPCs, common		
		simple sentences	exception words and		
		dictated by the	punctuation taught so		
		teacher that include	far.		
		words using the GPCs			
		and common			
		exception words			
		taught so far.			

Progression in Writing

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Transcription:	(DM 2020: Literacy)	(DM 2020: Literacy)	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:
•	Write some letters	Form lower-case and				
Handwriting	accurately.	capital letters correctly.	sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil	form lower-case letters of the correct size	use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that	write legibly, fluently and with increasing
	Write some or all of their name.	(DM 2020: Physical Development)	comfortably and correctly begin to form	relative to one another	are needed to join letters and understand which	speed by:
	(DM 2020: Physical	Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a	lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting	start using some of the	letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left	-choosing which shape of a letter to use when given
	Development)	range of tools	and finishing in the right	diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join	unjoined	choices and deciding
	Use one-handed tools and	competently, safely and	place	letters and understand	1	whether or not to join
	equipment, for example,	confidently. Suggested		which letters, when	 increase the legibility, 	specific letters
	making snips in paper with	tools: pencils for drawing	• form capital letters	adjacent to one	consistency and quality	
	scissors.	and writing, paintbrushes,		another, are best left	of their handwriting [for	-choosing the writing
		scissors, knives, forks and	• form digits 0-9	unjoined	example, by ensuring	implement that is best
	Use a comfortable grip	spoons.			that the downstrokes of	suited for a task.
	with good control when	Davidon the foundations	understand which letters	write capital letters and	letters are parallel and	
	holding pens and pencils.	Develop the foundations of a handwriting style	belong to which	digits of the correct size,	equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced	
	Start eating independently	which is fast, accurate and	handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are	orientation and relationship to one	sufficiently so that the	
	and learning how to use a	efficient.	formed in similar ways)	another and to lower	ascenders and	
	knife and fork.		and to practise these	case letters	descenders of letters do	
		Early Learning Goals			not touch].	
	Show a preference for a			 use spacing between 		
	dominant hand.	Physical Development		words that reflects the		
	(5)4 2020 5	ELG: Fine Motor Skills		size of the letters.		
	(DM 2020: Expressive Arts	Children at the expected				
	and Design) Create closed shapes with	level of development will: - Hold a pencil effectively				
	continuous lines, and	in preparation for fluent				
	begin to use these shapes	writing – using the tripod				
	to represent objects.	grip in almost all cases;				
		- Use a range of small				
	Draw with increasing	tools, including scissors,				
	complexity and detail,	paint brushes and cutlery;				
	such as representing a	- Begin to show accuracy				
	face with a circle and	and care when drawing.				
	including details.	Litoracy				
		Literacy ELG: Writing				

	Use drawing to represent	Children at the expected				
	ideas like movement or	level of development will:				
	loud noises.	- Write recognisable				
	iouu iioises.	_				
	ol list	letters, most of which are				
	Show different emotions	correctly formed;				
	in their drawings and	- Spell words by identifying				
	paintings, like happiness,	sounds in them and				
	sadness, fear etc.	representing the sounds				
		with a letter or letters; -				
		Write simple phrases and				
		sentences that can be read				
		by others.				
Composition	(DM 2020: Literacy)	(DM 2020: Literacy)	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:	Pupils should be taught to:
	Engage in extended	Write short sentences with				
	conversations about	words with known sound-	 write sentences by: 	 develop positive 	 plan their writing by: 	plan their writing by:
	stories, learning new	letter correspondences	 saying out loud what 	attitudes towards and		
	vocabulary.	using a capital letter and	they are going to write	stamina for writing by:	-discussing writing similar	identifying the audience
	,	full stop.	about	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	to that which they are	for and purpose of the
	Understand the five key	·	composing a sentence	- writing narratives about	planning to write in order	writing, selecting the
	concepts about print:	Re-read what they have	orally before writing it	personal experiences and	to understand and learn	appropriate form and
	- print has meaning	written to check that it	• sequencing sentences to	those of others (real and	from its structure,	using other similar writing
	- print can have different	makes sense.	form short narratives	fictional)	vocabulary and grammar	as models for their own
	purposes		• re-reading what they	india.i.a.,	Total and grammar	
	- we read English text from	(DM 2020: Communication	have written to check	-writing about real events	-discussing and recording	noting and developing
	left to right and from top	and Language)	that it makes sense		ideas	initial ideas, drawing on
	to bottom	Articulate their ideas and		-writing poetry	ideas	reading and research
	- the names of the	thoughts in well-formed	discuss what they have	Writing poetry	draft and write by:	where necessary
	different parts of a book	sentences.	written with the teacher	-writing for different	diant and write by.	Where necessary
	-page sequencing	5666	or other pupils	purposes	-composing and	• in writing narratives,
	page sequencing	Connect one idea or action	 read aloud their writing 	purposes	rehearsing sentences	considering how authors
	Use some of their print	to another using a range of	clearly enough to be	• consider what they are	orally (including dialogue),	have developed
	and letter knowledge in	connectives.	heard by their peers and	going to write before	progressively building a	characters and settings
	their early writing. For	connectives.	the teacher.	beginning by:	varied and rich vocabulary	in what pupils have
	example: writing a pretend	Describe events in some		Degining by.	and an increasing range of	read, listened to or seen
	shopping list that starts at	detail.		planning or south a out	0 0	performed draft and
	the top of the page;	detaii.		-planning or saying out	sentence structures	
	writing 'm' for mummy.	Listen to and talk about		loud what they are going	(English Appendix 2)	write by:
	withing in for manning.	stories to build familiarity		to write about		a a la atium a munum viat -
	(DM 2020: Communication				-organising paragraphs	-selecting appropriate
	(DM 2020: Communication	and understanding.		-writing down ideas	around a theme	grammar and vocabulary,
	and language)	Forty Looming Coals		and/or key words,		understanding how such
	Use longer sentences of	Early Learning Goals		including new vocabulary	-in narratives, creating	choices can change and
	four to six words.	124			settings, characters and	enhance meaning
		Literacy			plot	

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ELG: Writing	-encapsulating what they		-in narratives, describing
Children at the expected	want to say, sentence by	-in non-narrative material,	settings, characters and
level of development will:	sentence	using simple	atmosphere and
- Write recognisable		organisational devices [for	integrating dialogue to
letters, most of which are	 make simple additions, 	example, headings and	convey character and
correctly formed;	revisions and	sub-headings]	advance the action
- Spell words by identifying	corrections to their own		
sounds in them and	writing by:	evaluate and edit by:	-précising longer passages
representing the sounds			
with a letter or letters;	-evaluating their writing	-assessing the	-using a wide range of
- Write simple phrases and	with the teacher and	effectiveness of their own	devices to build cohesion
sentences that can be read	other pupils	and others' writing and	within and across
by others.	-re-reading to check that	suggesting improvements	paragraphs
'	their writing makes sense	55 11 5 p in 1	
	and that verbs to indicate	-proposing changes to	-using further
	time are used correctly	grammar and vocabulary	organisational and
	and consistently, including	to improve consistency,	presentational devices to
	verbs in the continuous	including the accurate use	structure text and to guide
	form	of pronouns in sentences	the reader [for example,
		or promound in semicines	headings, bullet points,
	-proof-reading to check	-proof-read for spelling	underlining]
	for errors in spelling,	and punctuation errors	anderming)
	grammar and punctuation	and punctuation errors	evaluate and edit by:
	[for example, ends of	-read aloud their own	evaluate and edit by.
	sentences punctuated	writing, to a group or the	-assessing the
	correctly]	whole class, using	effectiveness of their own
	correctly]	appropriate intonation	and others' writing
	-read aloud what they	and controlling the tone	proposing changes to
	have written with	and volume so that the	1
			vocabulary, grammar and
	appropriate intonation to	meaning is clear.	punctuation to enhance
	make the meaning clear.		effects and clarify meaning
			-ensuring the consistent
			and correct use of tense
			throughout a piece of
			writing
			-ensuring correct subject
			and verb agreement when
			using singular and plural,
			distinguishing between the
			language of speech and

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			writing and choosing the appropriate register
			-proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors

^{*}References for EYFS are taken from Development Matters. They are not intended to link into the Key stage One curriculum but rather to provide the foundation for children to acquire the knowledge, skills and understanding necessary for their future next steps.

^{*}EY practitioners will also consider the Characteristics of Effective Learning when considering the best ways to support children's progress