Progression of skills – English Curriculum



Skill	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2
Becoming a reader	 Enjoy listening to and joining in with stories and poems Listen attentively to a story Talk about a story Join in with repeated refrains Explore books independently Handle books carefully Use the terms cover, beginning, end, page, title Talk about new words found in stories Track a text word by word 	 Enjoy stories (including fairy and traditional stories), poems and rhymes Listen to and discuss a wide range of poems, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently Offer an opinion on what is read to them and listen to the opinions of others Retell a story using prompts Retell a story in the correct order Join in with stories being read aloud 	 Enjoy books and reading Listen to and discuss a wide range of poems (contemporary and classic), stories and nonfiction that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves Offer opinions and preferences about books, backed up by reasons Discuss favourite authors Retell a story using words and phrases from the text Retell a story from memory, including all the main parts Retell a stock of basic stories Discuss their favourite words and phrases
Becoming a researcher	Answer simple questions e.g. who, what, when, how	 Pose questions before reading non-fiction to find answers Navigate a simple non-fiction text Record information gleaned from simple non-fiction texts 	 Use indexes, contents pages, headings and captions to navigate non-fiction texts Navigate simple alphabetically ordered texts Use screen based and book conventions to find information efficiently and safely
Discussion	 Take turns in a pair Listen to other pupils during activities Contribute ideas to class discussions Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussions, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary (ELG) 	 Take turns in a group Listen to other pupils during group work Explain their thoughts to a group 	Keep on topic during discussion Reach agreement in a group Ensure all group members have a turn
Drama	 Represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through role play Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher (ELG) 	 Respond to other characters in role Pretend to be a character, showing feelings through words and action Take turns speaking their part in acting out familiar stories with words and actions 	 Make up plays from stories and other stimuli Show a character through movement Learn and deliver some lines Improve their plays by practising and adding simple theatrical effects e.g. props and sound effects

Fluency	Re-read books to build fluency and confidence	 Re-read books to build fluency and confidence Begin to read with expression Recite some poems and rhymes by heart In phonically regular texts, read aloud many words quickly and accurately without overt sounding and blending (WTS KS1) Sound out many unfamiliar words accurately in a phonically regular text (WTS KS1) 	 Re-read books to build fluency and confidence Decrease reliance on 'sounding out' in common words Read most words accurately without overt sounding and blending and sufficiently fluently to allow them to focus on their understanding rather than on decoding individual words (EXS KS1) Sound out most unfamiliar words accurately, without undue hesitation (EXS KS1) Read Year 2 texts with expression and appropriate volume Read Year 2 texts with good phrasing Read Year 2 texts at conversational pace Learn some classic poems by heart
Grammar	Leave spaces between words (WTS KS1)	Use correct grammatical terminology when discussing their writing Leave spaces between words (WTS KS1) Join words with 'and' within sentences Join sentences with 'and' (EXS KS1) Recognise and know the purpose of nouns Recognise and know the purpose of verbs Form singular and plural nouns (link with spelling) Change the meaning of words by adding un-(link with spelling) Form new nouns by compounding e.g. whiteboard (link with spelling)	 Use correct grammatical terminology when discussing their writing Use words that are appropriate to the type of writing e.g. story language, imperative verbs in instructions Draw on their reading to inform the grammar and vocabulary of their writing (GD KS1) Recognise and write statements Recognise and write questions Recognise and write exclamations Recognise and write commands Join sentences with 'or' and 'but' (EXS KS1) Use 'when', 'if', 'that' and 'because' to extend sentences (EXS KS1) Avoid using 'and', 'but' or 'so' after a full stop Write and use expanded noun phrases Form nouns by using suffixes such as -ness and -er.

			 Use precise and appropriate verbs when writing Write consistently in 'past' or 'present' tense (EXS KS1) Use the progressive form of verbs (-ing) to write about actions in progress e.g. He was thinking, she is dancing Recognise and know the purpose of adjectives Form adjectives using -ful, -er, -est and - less (link with spelling) Recognise and know the purpose of -ly adverbs Form and use adverbs by adding -ly to adjectives Learn to use some features of written standard English
Handwriting and presentation	 Develop strong gross and fine motor control Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases (ELG) Use a pencil with control Write recognisable letters (lower and upper case), most of which are correctly formed (ELG) Begin to form numbers correctly (contributes to EXS KS1) 	 Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly Form 'long ladder' lower case letters correctly (i, j, l, t, u (v and w if with rounded bases)) Form the equivalent upper case letters correctly (I, J, L, T, U) Form 'one-armed robot' lower case letters correctly (b, h, k, m, n, p, r) Form the equivalent upper case letters correctly (B, H, K, M, N, P, R) Form the digits 2, 3 and 5 correctly Form 'curly caterpillar' lower case letters correctly (c, a, d, e, g, o, q, f, s) Form the equivalent upper case letters correctly (C, A, D, E, G, O, Q, F, S) Form the digits 0, 6, 8 and 9 correctly Form 'zigzag' lower case letters correctly (v, w, x, y, z) Form the equivalent upper case letters correctly (V, W, X, Y, Z) Form the digits 1, 4, and 7 correctly 	 Form lower case letters of the correct size relative to one another (WTS KS1) Write upper letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to other letters and digits (EXS KS1) Write legibly (WTS KS2) Use diagonal and horizontal strokes to join letters together (GD KS1) Know which letters not to join Ensure spacing between words is appropriately sized (EXS KS1) Type accurately

		Form lower case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place (WTS KS1)	
Listening	 Listen attentively in a range of situations. Give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity. Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions (ELG) Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding (ELG) Hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers (ELG) 	 Listen and respond appropriately to adults and peers, in a range of situations Listen and follow instructions accurately, asking for help or clarification if necessary Listen with sustained concentration 	 Follow up listening with relevant questions Comment constructively after listening Be able to extract key points when listening to an adult
Punctuation	Use a capital letter to begin a sentence Use a full stop to end a sentence Demarcate some sentences with capital letters and full stops (WTS KS1)	 Use correct grammatical terminology when discussing their writing Use full stops and capitals throughout a piece of writing (EXS KS1, WTS KS2) Use capital letters for people, places, days of the week and 'l' Use question marks (EXS KS1, WTS KS2) Understand the uses of exclamation marks Use exclamation marks (contributes to GD KS1) 	 Use correct grammatical terminology when discussing their writing Understand that an apostrophe is used for omission and possession Use apostrophes for simple contracted forms (contributes to GD KS1, WTS KS2) Use apostrophes for singular possession (contributes to GD KS1) Avoid using conjunctions and full stops together Use commas for lists (contributes to GD KS1, WTS KS2)
Speaking	 Communicate effectively showing awareness of listeners' needs Use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future. Develop narratives or explanations by connecting ideas or events (often using conjunctions) 	Tell a story or describe an incident clearly Retell a story or incident in which events are clearly ordered Read aloud clearly and use some intonation for effect	 Add detail to their talk to keep the listener interested Use emphasis, story language and interesting vocabulary when telling stories Use gesture to support talk

	Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate (ELG) Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher (ELG)		
Spelling	 Spell 'CVC' words using the GPCs taught so far Spell common exception words taught so far (contributes to WTS/EXS KS1) Use phonetically plausible choices when writing (WTS KS1) Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters (ELG) Spell their own forename and surname 	 Spell words using the GPCs taught so far (ensure your programme covers English appendix 1 (Y1) of National Curriculum) (WTS KS1) Segment words into individual phonemes to aid spelling (WTS KS1) Name the letters of the alphabet in order Use letter names to talk about different grapheme choices Spell year 2 common exception words that cannot be easily decoded at this stage ('tricky' words) (contributes to WTS KS1/EXS KS1) Spell simple words with adjacent consonants Spell words ending in -nk Spell plural nouns with -s and -es Use -s and -es to spell third person singular verbs Spell words with the -ing suffix (where no change is needed to the root word) Spell common words ending in -ve Spell words with the -ed suffix (where no change is needed to the root word) Spell words with the -er suffix (where no change is needed to the root word) Spell words with the -est suffix (where no change is needed to the root word) Spell words with the -est suffix (where no change is needed to the root word) Spell simple words with the un- prefix 	 Segment words into individual phonemes to aid correct spelling (WTS KS1 and EXS KS1) Choose the correct grapheme where there are several options (EXS KS1) Use the frequency and usual position of graphemes to make a spelling choice Spell y2 common exception words correctly (National Curriculum Appendix 1) (contributes to WTS/EXS/GD KS1) Investigate spelling patterns and conventions Spell words ending with the 'i' sound spelt y e.g. fry Spell words where -es is added to a word ending in y e.g. flies Spell words with the 's' sound spelt c before e, i and y e.g. city Spell words beginning with the 'r' sound spelt wr e.g. wrote Spell words ending with the 'ee' sound spelt ey e.g. monkey Spell words with the 'u' sound spelt o e.g. Monday Spell words with the suffix -ly e.g. badly (GD KS1) Spell contracted words using the apostrophe e.g. can't

Spell common compound words

	Spell the days of the week	Spell frequently confused common
	 Divide words into syllables to aid spelling 	homophones e.g. here and hear
	 Write simple dictated sentences using 	Spell words with the 'j' sound spelt j, g, ge
	spelling knowledge taught so far	and dge
	 Apply spellings and spelling conventions 	Spell words with the 'or' sound spelt a before
	taught in their own work	an I or a II e.g. call
		Spell words with the 'or' sound spelt ar after
		w e.g. warm
		Spell words with the 'o' sound spelt a after w and guess weetsh
		and qu e.g. watchSpell words with the 'ur' sound spelt or after
		w e.g. word
		Spell words with the suffixes -ful and –
		less (GD KS1)
		Spell words where suffixes (-ed, -inger and)
		-est) are added to words ending in
		consonant + y e.g. crying, cried
		 Spell two syllable words ending in –tion e.g.
		station
		Use the possessive apostrophe with singular
		nouns e.g. Sid's
		Spell words ending in the 'l' sound and spelt
		-le e.g. table
		Spell words ending in the 'l' sound and spelt
		-el e.g. camel
		Spell words ending in the 'l' sound and spelt
		-al e.g. pedalSpell words ending in the 'l' sound and spelt
		-il e.g. fossil
		Spell words with the 'n' sound spelt kn or gn
		e.g. know and gnaw
		Spell the 'zh' sound spelt s e.g. treasure
		Spell words with the suffix -ment e.g.
		enjoyment (GD KS1)
		Spell words with the suffix -ness e.g.
		sadness (GD KS1)
		 Spell words where suffixes (-ed, -inger -y
		and -est) are added to words ending in
		consonant + e e.g. hiking, nicest
		Spell words where suffixes (-ed, -inger, -y
		and -est) are added to one syllable words

Word reading	 Distinguish between different sounds to 	Respond quickly with the correct sound for	ending in short vowel + single consonant e.g. dropping Spell further common homophones e.g. there, their and they're Write simple dictated sentences using spelling and punctuation knowledge taught so far Apply spellings and spelling conventions taught in their own work Blend GPCs to read accurately
TOTAL TENGHING	 Distinguish between different sounds to develop phonological awareness Recognise rhyme and alliteration to develop phonological awareness Count the number of words in a sentence Count the number of syllables within words Identify and reproduce initial sounds in words they hear Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs (ELG) Distinguish the individual phonemes within a word to develop phonemic awareness Segment simple words orally into phonemes Blend the phonemes in simple words orally Identify the number of phonemes in simple words Read familiar words by sight such as own name Respond quickly with the correct sound for graphemes (using phonemes taught so far) Respond quickly with the correct sound for graphemes (for all 40+ phonemes) Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending (ELG) Remember and read high frequency phonically decodable words Read and remember high frequency words that cannot be easily decoded at this stage 	 Respond quickly with the correct sound for graphemes (for all 40+ phonemes) Read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the common graphemes for all 40+ phonemes (WTS KS1) Remember and read high frequency phonically decodable words Read many year 1 common exception words (National Curriculum English Appendix 1) (WTS KS1) Read words containing taught GPCs and ending in -s, -es and ing Read words of more than one syllable (WTS KS1) Read words containing taught GPCs and ending in -ed, -er and est Read words with contractions and understand how apostrophes work in these words Apply phonic knowledge across the curriculum Read aloud accurately books that match their phonic knowledge Read aloud accurately books which require them to use other reading strategies 	 Recognise alternative sounds for graphemes Apply phonic knowledge across the curriculum Read words of two or more syllables (EXS KS1) Read most words containing common suffixes (link to spelling) (EXS KS1) Read most common exception words (National Curriculum Appendix 1) (EXS KS1) Sound out unfamiliar words and use other reading strategies when reading aloud Orchestrate a range of reading strategies to decode successfully Self-correct when reading aloud
	 that cannot be easily decoded at this stage ('tricky' words) Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words (ELG) 	 Listen to what they are reading to hear if it makes sense Read to the end of a sentence to help work out an unknown word Re-read when they have not understood 	

		 Use the punctuation to get meaning from the text Use the context as an aid to decoding unknown words Look for words within words to aid decoding Break down large words into syllables to aid decoding 	
Writing - composing	 Begin to use the process of think, say, write, check Be confident and keen to write Write for a range of real and imagined purposes Compose a sentence orally before writing it Write a short sequence of sentences, sometimes for a real purpose and audienc Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others (ELG) Use some new vocabulary in their sentences (from Appendix B – Reception) 	 Use the sentence by sentence process of think, say, write, check Use ideas from their reading in their writing Write a sequence of sentences Write a sequence of sentences to form a short narrative or non-narrative text (WTS KS1) sometimes for a real purpose and audience Use the key narrative and non-narrative writing skills of telling, informing, recounting and instructing (see Appendix C) Improve their writing style by adding new techniques to their repertoire (from Appendix A – year 1) Improve their writing by using some new vocabulary (from Appendix B – year 1) 	 Embed the sentence by sentence process of think, say, write, check Write about personal experiences and real events (EXS KS1) Write a coherent story for an (often real) audience (EXS KS1) Write non-narrative text types for a clear purpose and a specific (often real) audience Write a poem based on a given structure Write effectively and coherently for different purposes drawing on their reading to inform the vocabulary and grammar of their writing (GD KS1) Use the key narrative writing skills of telling and description (see Appendix C) Use the key non-narrative writing skills of informing, recounting, instructing and persuading (see Appendix C) Ensure that there is a clear structure to their writing Develop an idea over several sentences Use adventurous vocabulary Add detail to writing when it is necessary Make their writing lively and interesting for the reader Link ideas to make writing flow e.g. last time, also, after, then, soon, at last, and another thing Build writing stamina through writing longer pieces Re-read writing for sense Improve their writing style by adding new techniques to their repertoire (from Appendix A – year 2)

			Improve their writing by using new vocabulary (from Appendix B – year 2)
Writing - evaluating	Begin to use the process of think, say, write, check Re-read what they have written to an adult Begin to use the process of think, say, write, check Re-read what they have written to an adult	 Use the sentence by sentence process of think, say, write, check Re-read what they have written to themselves, in order to check that it makes sense Talk about their writing Read aloud their writing clearly (link with Spoken Language) 	 Embed the sentence by sentence process of think, say, write, check Re-read writing for sense Ensure that there is a clear structure in their writing Check writing for consistent use of tense Evaluate their writing with others and by themselves Use expression when reading aloud their writing Edit their work by making simple additions and revisions (GD KS1) Proof read their work for spelling, grammar and punctuation errors (GD KS1)
Writing - planning	 Say out loud what they are going to write Begin to use the process of think, say, write, check 	 Use ideas from their reading in their writing Say out loud what they are going to write Use the sentence by sentence process of think, say, write, check Plan a 4 sentence story Plan a simple story (beyond 4 sentences) 	 Plan a narrative text Plan non-narrative text types Include new vocabulary in planning Use underlying structures from reading (picture books or short stories) to aid planning Use planning to give structure to the their writing Embed the sentence by sentence process of think, say, write, check
Reading comprehension – asking questions	Ask questions about a text being read by an adult	 Ask questions to engage with a text Ask questions in a discussion of a text with peers and adults 	 Ask questions to themselves as they are reading Ask 'Why' and 'I wonder' questions
Reading comprehension – clarifying and retrieving	Talk about what happens in a text	 Check that the text makes sense as they read and re-read if necessary Retrieve information from a familiar book that is read to them in discussion with the teacher (KS1 WTS) 	Check that the text makes sense as they read and correct inaccurate reading (KS1 EXS) Build comprehension by retrieving basic information from a text (KS1 EXS)

			 Create understanding by reading and combining different textual elements e.g. text, pictures, diagrams, labels and captions Use vocabulary knowledge, including synonyms, to aid comprehension Order the events in a text
Reading comprehension – imagining	Talk about what they think, feel and imagine when sharing picture books	Use imagination to re-enact stories in a variety of ways	Develop an active attitude towards imagining by responding to what they have read or listened to e.g. through talk, drama, drawing
Reading comprehension – inferring	Say how a character is feeling in a book that is read to them	 Make simple inferences from a familiar book that is read to them (KS1 WTS) Make simple inferences about characters from what they say and do 	 Make inferences about characters, settings and events (EXS KS1 and GD KS1) Use vocabulary knowledge, including synonyms, to aid inference
Reading comprehension – linking	Make links between events in their lives and events in stories	Develop understanding by linking reading to prior knowledge and/or background information	 Develop understanding by linking reading to prior knowledge and/or background information Make links between the book they are reading and other books they have read (KS1 GD)
Reading comprehension – predicting	 Suggest how the story might end Anticipate – where appropriate – key events in stories (ELG) 	Predict the next part of a story	Make a plausible prediction about what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far (KS1 GD)
Reading comprehension – responding to texts	 Discuss the title and talk about the events in a story Answer questions about the story 	 Discuss the title and talk about the events in a story Identify the main characters and say what they are like Answer questions about the text in discussion with the teacher (WTS KS1) 	Retrieve information from the text to answer questions (EXS KS1)
Reading comprehension – summarising	Recall some events and characters from a story Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary (ELG)	Recall the main events in a story	Explain what has happened so far in what they have read (KS1 EXS)

Reading comprehension – understanding text organisation	No objectives	 Recognise and understand the terms title, author, illustrator and illustration Understand that text, illustration and other features combine to give meaning 	 Recognise and discuss features of different texts Recognise and discuss the sequence of events in fiction and how items are related in non-fiction
Reading comprehension – understanding writers use of language	No objectives	No objectives	 Recognise recurring story language Recognise recurring language in stories and poetry Discuss which words and phrases are effective
Reading comprehension – vocabulary knowledge	 Use vocabulary to create meaning Build a bank of vocabulary by spotting, collecting and discussing new words and phrases from texts and linking these with words already know Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play (ELG) 	Apply vocabulary they know in one context to another Build a bank of vocabulary by spotting, collecting and discussing new words and phrases from texts and linking these with words already known	 Use the surrounding text to aid them in understanding unknown vocabulary Infer meanings from the vocabulary used Build a bank of vocabulary by spotting, collecting and discussing new words and phrases from texts and linking these with words already known

All objectives derived from the National Curriculum or the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage are typed in **black**. Additional objectives are typed in **purple**. Teaching both will lead to a more rounded and complete English curriculum for your school.

Objectives which directly contribute towards the Early Learning Goals or the statements in the Teacher Assessment Frameworks appear in **bold**. Be aware that the Teacher Assessment Frameworks refer to key stages not Y2 and Y6. Therefore these objectives will be found scattered across year groups. Key objectives are <u>underlined</u>. These are the most important objectives in each year group. They must be mastered in the year group in which they appear.