

Spelling at St. Peter's Bratton

Spelling and word knowledge are key components in the process of learning to read and write. Learning to spell well is extremely useful if we want our children to become confident writers. If they are constantly stopping to think about how words are spelt while they write, it can interrupt the flow of their thoughts, taking them away from what we want them to be thinking about: their choice of words and how they construct those words into sentences that communicate exactly what they want to say.

In the Foundation Stage and Year 1, children are taught to use their phonics knowledge to help them spell by segmenting a word and choosing the grapheme for each sound.

From Year 2 to Year 3, children begin to follow a spelling programme, as well as learning the common exception spellings and word lists appropriate for their year group.

At St. Peter's, we use 'No Nonsense' spelling resources to support with this. Throughout all written work, children are taught to proofread for errors, use dictionaries to support their spelling, develop mnemonics for aiding memory and learn about how to use etymology and morphology to help with spelling. We also use, word banks, vocabulary books and other resources to support the correct application of spelling. Additional teaching is facilitated where required for individuals or small groups.

The *No Nonsense Spelling Programme* offers an accessible, clear progression in the teaching of spelling. The focus of the programme is on the comprehensive *teaching* of spelling, which embraces 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 exceptions and personal spellings

Please see the information below for common exception words for KS1 and statutory word lists for KS2 and strategies we use for learning spellings in school.