

Learning Objectives for Writing in Years 1-6

The learning objectives are separated into 4 different areas. Children are assessed through the year against the following objectives. Children have a copy of these objectives in their English books.

YEAR 1

Composition	Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Spelling	Handwriting
Can I read a sentence back to ensure it makes sense?	Can I punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop?	Can I spell words using phonics sounds taught?	Can I form all letters correctly?
Can I sequence ideas in writing?	Can I use a capital letter at the start of a sentence?	Can I spell regular –s –es endings correctly?	Can I use finger spaces between words?
Can I use some descriptive language in writing?	Can I join clauses using 'and'?	Can I spell regular verb inflections –ing –ed correctly?	

YEAR 2

Composition	Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Spelling	Handwriting
Can I write simple stories about real or fictional experiences?	Can I use full stops and capital letters correctly at the start of sentences?	Can I spell words as contractions?	Can I make sure all capital letters and small letters are correctly sized and formed?
Can I write clearly about real events?	Can I use question marks and exclamation marks mostly correctly?	Can I spell some common homophones?	Children are starting to join letters.
Can I check my writing back for spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors?	Can I use the present tense and past tense mostly correctly?	Can I spell many common exception words?	
Can I choose vocabulary that makes my writing more enjoyable to read?	Can I use words like 'and', 'but' and 'or' to join sentences?	Can I spell most of the words learnt in year 2?	
	Can I use words like 'when', 'if', 'that' and 'because' to join sentences?		
	Can I sometimes use apostrophes correctly to show the shortening of two words and to show possession?		

YEAR 3

Composition	Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Spelling	Handwriting
Can I write for purpose?	Can I use pronouns in my writing?	Can I spell many of the year 3 and 4 words correctly?	Can I sometimes produce legible, joined-up handwriting where possible?
Can I create setting in a story?	Can I use 'a' and 'an' correctly?	Can I often spell common homophones correctly?	
Can I separate ideas into different paragraphs?	Can I always use capital letters correctly?	Can I regularly spell tricky words (often misspelt) correctly?	
Can I develop characterisation through a story?	Can I add subordinate clauses before and after a main clause?	Do I understand how to add some prefixes and suffixes to words?	
Can I create a plot for a story?	Can I use conjunctions of time, place and cause?		
Can I check writing for spelling, punctuation and grammar?	Can I use inverted commas to punctuate speech?		
In non-fiction writing, can I use headings and sub-headings?	Can I use exclamation marks?		
	Can I use apostrophes correctly?		

YEAR 4

Composition	Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Spelling	Handwriting
Can I write for purpose and audience?	Can I punctuate speech correctly?	Can I consistently spell all the 3 and 4 words correctly?	Can I produce handwriting that is often joined and always legible?
Can I create a setting in a story?	Can I separate between using formal and in-formal vocabulary in my writing?	Can I usually spell trick words (often misspelt) correctly?	
Can I develop characterisation through a story?	Can I insert both singular and plural possessive apostrophes correctly into sentences?	Can I usually spell common homophones correctly?	
Can I create a plot for a story?	Can I sometimes use commas in my writing?		
Can I improve a text by removing repetition of pronouns or nouns and replacing them appropriately?	Can I create use adverbial phrases in my writing?		
Can I separate my ideas into different paragraphs?			
Can I check my writing back for spelling and punctuation errors?			

YEAR 5

Composition	Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Spelling	Handwriting
Can I write for purpose and audience?	Can I use a variety of tenses correctly in my writing?	Can I spell many of the year 5 and 6 words correctly?	Can I produce handwriting that is usually consistently-sized and joined?
Can I vary the size of paragraphs to have an impact on the pace of the writing?	Can I use a thesaurus to find alternative words in my writing?	Can I spell most homophones correctly?	Can I make sure my writing is always legible?
Can I develop setting, character and atmosphere?	Can I make clear the difference in my writing between formal and informal language?	Can I use a dictionary to check words I am unsure of?	
Can I vary the construction of my sentences including use of complex sentences and short sentences In order to improve the impact of my writing?	Can I use adverb for degrees of possibility?		
Can I check my writing for errors with spelling and punctuation?			
Can I use a range of devices to build cohesion?			

YEAR 6

Composition	Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	Spelling	Handwriting
Can I write for audience and purpose?	Can I use a variety of tenses correctly in my writing to show timelines?	Can I use a dictionary to check the spellings of ambitious vocabulary?	Am I able to produced joined-up handwriting, legibly and at speed?
Can I create atmosphere in my writing through the choice of vocabulary and variation in sentences?	Can I usually use basic punctuation consistently correctly? ie. full stops, apostrophes, commas	Can I consistently spell year 5/6 national curriculum words correctly?	
Can I convey character and setting through appropriate choice of vocabulary?	Can I often use more advanced punctuation correctly? ie. semi-colons, dashes, hyphens	Can I usually spell homophones correctly?	
Can I use dialogue to convey character and advance the action?	Can I sometimes use different grammatical sentence structures for effect? e.g. passive voice, subjunctive, progressive verbs		
Can I write cohesively using a variation of sentence openers and structures?			
Can I write across a range of registers?			