

English Progression of Skills

Skill Focus	EYFS	Years 1 to 6
Speaking and Listening	Listening and attention ELG Iisten 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 make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding; hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers. Speaking ELG hold conversation when engaged in back-and-forth exchanges with their teacher and peers.	 listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge use relevant strategies to build their vocabulary articulate and justify answers, arguments and opinions give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes, including for expressing feelings maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments use spoken language to develop understanding through speculating, hypothesising, imagining and exploring ideas speak audibly and fluently with an increasing command of Standard English participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates gain, maintain and monitor the interest of the listener(s) consider and evaluate different viewpoints, attending to and building on the contributions of others select and use appropriate registers for effective communication.

Skill Focus	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Years 3 & 4	Years 5 & 6
Reading - Word Recognition	say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs; read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound blending; read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.	 apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words respond speedily with the correct sound to graphemes (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes, including, where applicable, alternative sounds for graphemes read accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words containing GPCs that have been taught read common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word read words containing taught GPCs and -s, -es, -ing, -ed, -er and -est endings read other words of more than one syllable that contain taught GPCs read words with contractions [for example, I'm, I'll, we'll], and understand that the apostrophe represents the omitted letter(s) read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and that do not require them to use other strategies to work out words re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading. 	continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words until automatic decoding has become embedded and reading is fluent read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the graphemes taught so far, especially recognising alternative sounds for graphemes read accurately words of two or more syllables that contain the same graphemes as above read words containing common suffixes read further common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word read most words quickly and accurately, without overt sounding and blending, when they have been frequently encountered read aloud books closely matched to their improving phonic knowledge, sounding out unfamiliar words accurately, automatically and without undue hesitation re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.	apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology) both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words they meet read further exception words, noting the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound, and where these occur in the word.	 apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (morphology and etymology) both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words that they meet.
Reading - Comprehension	Comprehension ELG demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary anticipate – where appropriate – key events in stories use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, nonfiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.	Pupils should be taught to: develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by: listening to and discussing a wide range of poems, stories and nonfiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently being encouraged to link what they read or hear read to their own experiences becoming very familiar with key stories, fairy stories and traditional tales, retelling them	Pupils should be taught to: develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by: listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and nonfiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently discussing the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related	Pupils should be taught to: develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by: listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes	Pupils should be taught to: maintain positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by: continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, nonfiction and reference books or textbooks reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books,

and considering their particular
characteristics

- recognising and joining in with predictable phrases
- learning to appreciate rhymes and poems, and to recite some by heart
- discussing word meanings, linking new meanings to those already known
- understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:
- drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
- checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading
- discussing the significance of the title and events
- making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participate in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say
- explain clearly their understanding of what is read to them.

- becoming increasingly familiar with and retelling a wider range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales
- being introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways
- recognising simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry
- discussing and clarifying the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary
- discussing their favourite words and phrases
- continuing to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some, with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear
- understand both the books that they can already read accurately and fluently and those that they listen to by:
- drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
- checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading
- making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
- answering and asking questions
- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say
- explain and discuss their understanding of books, poems and other material, both those that they listen to and those that they read for themselves.

- using dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read
- increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally
- identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
- discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
- recognising some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry]
- understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
- checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context
- asking questions to improve their understanding of a text
- drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
- identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
- identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning
- retrieve and record information from non-fiction
- participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others

- including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and books from other cultures and traditions
- recommending books that they have read to their peers, giving reasons for their choices
- identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing
- making comparisons within and across books
- learning a wider range of poetry by heart
- preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience
- understand what they read by:
- checking that the book makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context
- asking questions to improve their understanding
- drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
- predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
- summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas
- identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning
- discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader
- distinguish between statements of fact and opinion
- retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction

Writing - transcription	Writing ELG write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed:	spell: words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught common exception words	 spell by: segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling 	 use further prefixes and suffixes and understand how to add them (English Appendix 1) 	 participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates, maintaining a focus on the topic and using notes where necessary provide reasoned justifications for their views. use further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them
	which are correctly formed; spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters; write simple phrases and sentences that can be ready by others.	 the days of the week name the letters of the alphabet: naming the letters of the alphabet in order using letter names to distinguish between alternative spellings of the same sound add prefixes and suffixes: using the spelling rule for adding —s or —es as the plural marker for nouns and the third person singular marker for verbs using the prefix un— using -ing, -ed, -er and -est where no change is needed in the spelling of root words [for example, helping, helped, helper, eating, quicker, quickest] apply simple spelling rules and guidance write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far. 	many correctly learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known, and learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones learning to spell common exception words learning to spell more words with contracted forms learning the possessive apostrophe (singular) [for example, the girl's book] distinguishing between homophones and near-homophones add suffixes to spell longer words, including —ment, —ness, —ful, —less, —ly apply spelling rules and guidance write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs, common exception words and punctuation taught so far.	 spell further homophones spell words that are often misspelt (English Appendix 1) place the possessive apostrophe accurately in words with regular plurals [for example, girls', boys'] and in words with irregular plurals [for example, children's] use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far. 	 spell some words with 'silent' letters [for example, knight, psalm, solemn] continue to distinguish between homophones and other words which are often confused use knowledge of morphology and etymology in spelling and understand that the spelling of some words needs to be learnt specifically, as listed in English Appendix 1 use dictionaries to check the spelling and meaning of words use the first three or four letters of a word to check spelling, meaning or both of these in a dictionary use a thesaurus.
Writing - Handwriting	hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing using the tripod grip in almost all cases;	 sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place form capital letters form digits 0-9 	 form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which 	use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined	write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by: choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific little

	 use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery; begin to show accuracy and care when drawing. 	understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.	letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters.	• increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch].	choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.
Writing – composition	Writing ELG Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed; spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters; write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others	write sentences by: saying out loud what they are going to write about composing a sentence orally before writing it sequencing sentences to form short narratives re-reading what they have written to check that it makes sense discuss what they have written with the teacher or other pupils read aloud their writing clearly enough to be heard by their peers and the teacher.	 develop positive attitudes towards and stamina for writing by: writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fictional) writing about real events writing poetry writing for different purposes consider what they are going to write before beginning by: planning or saying out loud what they are going to write about writing down ideas and/or key words, including new vocabulary encapsulating what they want to say, sentence by sentence make simple additions, revisions and corrections to their own writing by: evaluating their writing with the teacher and other pupils re-reading to check that their writing makes sense and that verbs to indicate time are used correctly and consistently, including verbs in the continuous form proof-reading to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation [for example, ends of sentences punctuated correctly] read aloud what they have written with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear. 	 plan their writing by: discussing writing similar to that which they are planning to write in order to understand and learn from its structure, vocabulary and grammar discussing and recording ideas draft and write by: composing and rehearsing sentences orally (including dialogue), progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures organising paragraphs around a theme in narratives, creating settings, characters and plot in non-narrative material, using simple organisational devices [for example, headings and sub-headings] evaluate and edit by: assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing and suggesting improvements proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistency, including the accurate use of pronouns in sentences proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors read aloud their own writing, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear. 	 plan their writing by: identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own noting and developing initial ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary in writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed draft and write by: selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning in narratives, describing settings, characters and atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey character and advance the action précising longer passages using a wide range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs using further organisational and presentational devices to structure text and to guide the reader [for example, headings, bullet points, underlining] evaluate and edit by:

Writing –	 leaving spaces between words 	leaving spaces between words	 learning how to use both familiar 	 extending the range of 	 assessing the effectiveness of their own and others' writing proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to enhance 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 writing and choosing the appropriate register proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors perform their own compositions, using appropriate intonation, volume, and movement so that meaning is clear. recognising vocabulary and
vocabulary, grammar and punctuation	beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop	 joining words and joining clauses 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 'l' learning the grammar for year 1 in English Appendix 2 use the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 in discussing their writing. 	and new punctuation correctly (see English Appendix 2), including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive (singular) learn how to use: sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command expanded noun phrases to describe and specify [for example, the blue butterfly] the present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co- ordination (using or, and, or but) the grammar for year 2 in English Appendix 2 some features of written Standard English use and understand the grammatical terminology in	sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause 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 plural nouns	structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence using the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or

	English Appendix 2 in discussing	 using and punctuating direct 	with an implied (i.e. omitted)
		0 1	. ` ` ,
	their writing.	speech	relative pronoun
	their writing.	 use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading. 	 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 hyphens to avoid ambiguity using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis using semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses using a colon to introduce a list
			 punctuating bullet points consistently

Skill Focus	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Years 6
Word	What are words How are words made?	Regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es [for example, dog, dogs; wish, wishes], including the effects of these suffixes on the meaning of the noun 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, for example, unkind, or undoing: untie the boat]	 Formation of nouns using suffixes such as -ness, -er and by compounding [for example, whiteboard, superman] Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as -ful, -less (A fuller list of suffixes can be found on page 46 in the year 2 spelling section in English Appendix 1) Use of the suffixes -er, -est in adjectives and the use of -ly in Standard English to turn adjectives into adverbs 	 Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes [for example super-, anti-, auto-] Use of the forms a or an according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel [for example, a rock, an open box] Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, solve, solution, solver, dissolve, insoluble] 	The grammatical difference between plural and possessive –s Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms [for example, we were instead of we was, or I did instead of I done]	 Converting nouns or adjectives into verbs using suffixes [for example, -ate; -ise; -ify] Verb prefixes [for example, dis-, de-, mis-, over- and re-] 	The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for forma speech and writing [for example, find ou - discover; ask for - request; go in - enter] How words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms [for example, big, large, little].

Sentence	•	How words	•	How words can	•	Subordination (using when,	•	Expressing time,	•	Noun phrases	•	Relative clauses	•	Use of the
		can		combine to make		if, that, because) and co-		place and cause		expanded by the		beginning with who,		passive to
		combine to		sentences		ordination (using or, and,		using		addition of		which, where, when,		affect the
		make		Joining words and		but)		conjunctions [for		modifying		whose, that, or an		presentation of
		sentences		joining clauses using	•	Expanded noun phrases		example, when,		adjectives, nouns		omitted relative		information in a
				and		for description and		before, after, while,		and preposition		pronoun		sentence [for
				ana		specification [for example,		so, because],		phrases (e.g. the	•	Indicating degrees of		example, I broke
						the blue butterfly, plain flour,		adverbs [for		teacher expanded		possibility using		the window in
						the man in the moon]		example, then,		to: the strict		adverbs [for		the greenhouse
						How the grammatical		next, soon,		maths teacher		example, perhaps,		versus The
						patterns in a sentence		therefore], or		with curly hair)		surely] or modal		window in the
						indicate its function as a		prepositions [for		Fronted		verbs [for example,		greenhouse was
						statement, question,		example, before,		adverbials [for		might, should, will,		broken (by me)].
						exclamation or command		after, during, in,		example, <i>Later</i>		must]		The difference
								because of		•		•		between
										that day, I heard				structures
										the bad news.]				typical of
														informal speech
														and structures
														appropriate for
														formal speech
														and writing [for
														example, the
														use of question
														tags: He's your
														friend, isn't he?,
														or the use of
														subjunctive
														forms such as If
														<u>I were</u> or <u>Were</u>
														they to come in
														some very
														formal writing
														and speech]

Text		Writing words Writing lists Sequencing sentences to form short narratives		Sequencing sentences to form short narratives		Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing Use of the progressive form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress [for example, she is drumming, he was shouting]		Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material Headings and subheadings to aid presentation Use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past [for example, He has gone out to play contrasted with He went out to play]		Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition		Devices to build cohesion within a paragraph [for example, then, after that, this, firstly] 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]		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]
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Punctuation	Separation	•	Separation of words	•	Use of capital letters, full	•	Introduction to		Use of inverted	Brackets, dashes or	-	Use of the semi-
	of words		with spaces		stops, question marks and		inverted commas to		commas and	commas to indicate		colon, colon and
	with spaces		Introduction to capital		exclamation marks to		punctuate direct		other	parenthesis		dash to mark
	Introduction		letters, full stops,		demarcate sentences		speech		punctuation to	Use of commas to		the boundary
	to capital		question marks and	•	Commas to separate items				indicate direct	clarify meaning or		between
	letters, full		exclamation marks to		in a list				speech [for	avoid ambiguity		independent
	stops,		demarcate sentences		Apostrophes to mark				example, a			clauses [for
		•	Capital letters for names		where letters are missing in				comma after the			example, It's
			and for the personal		spelling and to mark singular				reporting clause;			raining; I'm fed
			pronoun /		possession in nouns [for				end punctuation			up]
					example, the girl's name]				within inverted			
					5				commas: The		•	Use of the colon
									conductor			to introduce a
									shouted, "Sit			list and use of
									down!"]			semi-colons
								•	Apostrophes to			within lists
									mark plural			Punctuation of
									possession [for			bullet points to
									example, the girl's			list information
									name, the girls'			
									names]		•	How hyphens
								•	Use of commas			can be used to
									after fronted			avoid ambiguity
									adverbials			[for example,
												man eating
												shark versus
												man-eating
												shark, or
												recover versus
												re-cover]

Terminology	Grapheme, phoneme, digraph, trigraph, phonics, full stop, letter, capital letter, sentence	letter, capital letter word, singular, plural sentence punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark	noun, noun phrase statement, question, exclamation, command compound, suffix adjective, adverb, verb, tense (past, present), apostrophe, comma	preposition, conjunction word family, prefix clause, subordinate clause direct speech consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter inverted commas (or 'speech marks')	determiner pronoun, possessive pronoun adverbial	modal verb, relative pronoun relative clause parenthesis, bracket, dash cohesion, ambiguity	subject, object active, passive synonym, antonym ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet points