

The Teaching of Phonics and Spelling at The Bellbird Primary School

The English Curriculum 2014 sets out year by year a statutory programme of study for spelling, with associated (statutory) word lists. We follow these programmes of study. However, we also continue to use schemes such as *Letters and Sounds*, *Support for Spelling* and the *No Nonsense Spelling by Babcock* where they complement the new statutory requirements.

Within Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, phonics is taught daily, based on *Letters and Sounds*. In Year 1, children will take part in a phonic check. This is part of the statutory assessments for key stage 1. The results of the check are sent out with the end of year progress report.

We:

- Involve all children in spelling activities, which will sometimes mean simplifying objectives for less able pupils and extending objectives for more able spellers.
- Link spelling lists to handwriting practice.
- Encourage children to become more independent in attempting to spell words in their own writing.
- Encourage pupils to learn spellings at home and at school (KS1-2) and, for Foundation Stage, send a list of 'tricky words' to parents.
- Use the NFER Single Word Spelling Test at the end of October and in March to track progress and to assist with identifying pupils who need additional support.

Home/School Support

- Differentiated lists of spellings are created by the class teacher using the cursive font purchased by the school.
- Lists of words to be recorded in a look, say, cover, write, check sheet.
- Where there are two classes in a year group, the class teachers will ensure that spellings are given out and the children tested on the same day in each class within the year group.

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