Year 1 Writing

Text Structure:

- Combine words to make sentences
- Sequence sentences to form short narratives
- Include a simple opening or ending
- Attempt to organise and group related ideas together
- Attempt to sequence ideas and events e.g. by use of time related words; numbered points; use of pictures.

Composition:

Write sentences by:

- saying out loud what they are going to write about
- composing a sentence orally before writing it
- 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.

Sentence Types

- Simple sentences
- Compound sentences joined by 'and'
- Introduce question and exclamation sentences

Handwriting

Children should:

- 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
- understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (i.e. letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

Grammar and Punctuation

Children should:

- leave spaces between words
- join words and clauses using 'and'
- begin to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark
- use a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I'
- use regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es [for example, dog, dogs; wish, wishes], and understand the effects of these suffixes on the meaning of the noun
- use suffixes that can be added to verbs where no change is needed in the spelling of root words (e.g. helping, helped, helper)
- understand how the prefix 'un-' changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives [negation, for example, unkind, or undoing: until the boat].

Spelling

Children should spell:

- words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught
- common exception words
- 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]
- write from memory simple sentences dictated by the teacher that include words using the GPCs and common exception words taught so far.

Spelling work for Year 1 from English Curriculum Appendix 1

Terminology

These are the terms children should be using in Year 1:

- letter
- capital letter
- word
- singular
- plural
- sentence
- punctuation
- full stop
- question mark
- exclamation mark.