

Punctuation & Grammar Overview

Year 1

National Curriculum focus: sentence construction; *and*; plurals; simple suffixes; *un-*; sentence punctuation; capital letters; sequencing sentences.

Half-term	Grammar & vocabulary	Punctuation	Application / outcome
Autumn 1	Oral sentences; words and spaces; word vs sentence; singular/plural; nouns; verbs	Spaces between words; capital letters; full stops	Write simple sentences independently
Autumn 2	Combining words to make sentences; joining words with and ; regular plurals -s/-es	Capital letters and full stops consistently	Join two ideas into one sentence
Spring 1	Sentence structure; recognising who/what the sentence is about and what happens	Question marks	Write and identify questions
Spring 2	Verb suffixes -ing, -ed, -er ; introduction to adjectives	Exclamation marks	Write sentences with appropriate description
Summer 1	Prefix un- ; changing meaning: <i>kind/unkind, tie/untie</i> ; singular/plural	Consolidate capitals, full stops, ? and !	Choose appropriate sentence punctuation
Summer 2	Sequencing sentences; beginning/middle/end; rereading for sense	Accurate sentence punctuation throughout	Short narrative of sequenced sentences

Key terminology: letter, capital letter, word, singular, plural, sentence, punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark.

End of Y1 expectation

Children should be able to write simple sentences, separate words accurately, use capitals and sentence-ending punctuation, use *and* to join ideas, and understand basic singular/plural concepts.

Year 2

National Curriculum focus: expanded noun phrases; coordination/subordination; sentence types; tense; progressive forms; commas in lists; apostrophes.

Half-term	Grammar & vocabulary	Punctuation	Application / outcome
Autumn 1	Review Y1; nouns, verbs, adjectives; expanded noun phrases	Capital letters/full stops/?/!	Improve simple sentences with description
Autumn 2	-ness, -er, -ful, -less ; compound words; adjectives/adverbs	Commas in lists	Write descriptive sentences and lists
Spring 1	Statements, questions, exclamations and commands	Match punctuation to sentence function	Identify and create the four sentence types
Spring 2	Coordination: and, but, or ; subordination: when, if, that, because	Consolidate sentence punctuation	Build compound and complex sentences
Summer 1	Past/present tense; tense consistency; progressive forms: <i>is running/was running</i>	Apostrophes for contractions	Maintain tense across a paragraph
Summer 2	Singular possession; expanded noun phrases; adverbs ending -ly	Apostrophe for possession; consolidate commas	Apply grammar/punctuation in independent writing

Key terminology: noun, noun phrase, statement, question, exclamation, command, compound, suffix, adjective, adverb, verb, tense, apostrophe, comma.

End of Y2 expectation

Children should be able to construct different sentence types, use coordination and basic subordination, maintain tense, create expanded noun phrases, use commas in lists and use apostrophes for contractions and singular possession.

Year 3

National Curriculum focus: conjunctions/adverbs/prepositions expressing time, place and cause; paragraphs; headings/subheadings; present perfect; direct speech; prefixes and word families.

Half-term	Grammar & vocabulary	Punctuation	Application / outcome
Autumn 1	Review Y2; nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs; a/an	Consolidation of KS1 punctuation	Accurate sentence construction
Autumn 2	Prefixes: super-, anti-, auto- ; word families	Commas in lists and sentence punctuation	Explore how word structure affects meaning
Spring 1	Conjunctions expressing time, place and cause: <i>when, before, after, while, because, so</i>	Commas where needed for clarity	Develop multi-clause sentences
Spring 2	Adverbs and prepositions expressing time/place/cause	Introduction to commas in longer sentences	Vary sentence openings
Summer 1	Present perfect vs simple past; clauses and subordinate clauses	Introduce inverted commas for direct speech	Write correctly punctuated dialogue
Summer 2	Paragraphs; headings/subheadings; cohesion within a paragraph	Direct speech consolidation	Organise information logically

Key terminology: preposition, conjunction, word family, prefix, clause, subordinate clause, direct speech, consonant, consonant letter, vowel, vowel letter, inverted commas/speech marks.

End of Y3 expectation

Children should understand clauses and subordinate clauses, use conjunctions/adverbs/prepositions to express relationships, organise writing into paragraphs, distinguish simple past from present perfect, and punctuate basic direct speech.

Year 4

National Curriculum focus: expanded noun phrases; fronted adverbials; Standard English; pronouns; cohesion; plural possession; direct speech punctuation.

Half-term	Grammar & vocabulary	Punctuation	Application / outcome
Autumn 1	Review Y3; noun phrases; determiners; pronouns	Consolidate commas and speech punctuation	Improve precision and avoid repetition
Autumn 2	Expanded noun phrases using adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases	Commas within expanded constructions where appropriate	Create detailed, concise descriptions
Spring 1	Fronted adverbials of time, place and manner	Commas after fronted adverbials	Vary sentence openings
Spring 2	Standard English; verb inflections; pronouns and possessive pronouns	Apostrophes: singular vs plural possession	Correct non-standard forms
Summer 1	Paragraph cohesion; choosing nouns/pronouns to avoid repetition	Direct speech: inverted commas, commas, ?/!	Write sustained dialogue
Summer 2	Consolidation and application; sentence variety	Full punctuation review	Edit and improve independent writing

Key terminology: determiner, pronoun, possessive pronoun, adverbial.

End of Y4 expectation

Children should confidently use fronted adverbials and commas, expanded noun phrases, Standard English, pronouns for cohesion, plural possessive apostrophes and correctly punctuated direct speech.

Year 5

National Curriculum focus: relative clauses; modal verbs/adverbs; cohesion across paragraphs; parenthesis; ambiguity; verb-forming suffixes and prefixes.

Half-term	Grammar & vocabulary	Punctuation	Application / outcome
Autumn 1	Review Y3/4; clauses; relative clauses using who, which, that	Commas around embedded relative clauses	Add precise information to sentences
Autumn 2	Relative pronouns; omitted relative pronoun; relative clauses with whose, where, when	Relative clause punctuation	Use relative clauses deliberately
Spring 1	Modal verbs: <i>might, should, will, must</i> ; modal adverbs: <i>perhaps, surely</i>	Commas for clarity	Express degrees of possibility/certainty
Spring 2	Prefixes dis-, de-, mis-, over-, re- ; suffixes -ate, -ise, -ify	Parenthesis introduction	Explore formal vocabulary and word formation
Summer 1	Cohesion within paragraphs; repetition, pronouns, adverbials, tense choices	Brackets, dashes and commas for parenthesis	Create cohesive paragraphs
Summer 2	Linking across paragraphs; ambiguity; editing for clarity	Commas to clarify meaning/avoid ambiguity	Edit sophisticated writing for precision

Key terminology: modal verb, relative pronoun, relative clause, parenthesis, bracket, dash, cohesion, ambiguity.

End of Y5 expectation

Children should be able to manipulate sentence structures rather than merely identify them. They should use relative clauses, modal language, parenthesis and cohesive devices purposefully and understand how punctuation can change meaning.

Year 6

National Curriculum focus: formal/informal language; passive voice; subjunctive; cohesion; ellipsis; layout devices; colon, semicolon, dash, bullet points and hyphens.

Half-term	Grammar & vocabulary	Punctuation	Application / outcome
Autumn 1	Active/passive voice; subject/object	Consolidate commas, brackets, dashes	Transform sentences between active/passive
Autumn 2	Formal vs informal language; Standard English; synonyms/antonyms	Punctuation for effect and clarity	Select language appropriate to audience
Spring 1	Modal verbs/adverbs; perfect forms; cohesion	Semicolon between closely related independent clauses	Create sophisticated links between ideas
Spring 2	Subjunctive forms; formal structures; question tags	Colon to introduce a list; semicolons within lists	Write formally and accurately
Summer 1	Cohesion: repetition, grammatical links, adverbials, ellipsis	Dash for effect/boundary; hyphens to avoid ambiguity	Control cohesion and meaning
Summer 2	Full KS2 consolidation; SATs application; editing/proofreading	Bullet points; colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, ellipsis	Independently proofread and edit for accuracy

Key terminology: subject, object, active, passive, synonym, antonym, ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semicolon, bullet points.

End of Y6 expectation

Children should be able to make deliberate grammatical and punctuation choices according to **meaning, audience and purpose**, not simply identify grammatical features.

Progression at a glance

Punctuation	First introduced	Secure/application by	Grammar
Spaces between words	Y1	Y1	Y1 - build a sentence ↓
Capital letters	Y1	Y1-2	
Full stops	Y1	Y1-2	
Question marks	Y1	Y1-2	Y2 - expand and combine sentences ↓
Exclamation marks	Y1	Y1-2	
Commas in lists	Y2	Y2	
Apostrophes for contractions	Y2	Y2	Y3 - control clauses and organise paragraphs ↓
Apostrophes for singular possession	Y2	Y2	
Inverted commas/direct speech	Y3	Y4	
Commas after fronted adverbials	Y4	Y4	Y4 - vary and connect sentences ↓
Apostrophes for plural possession	Y4	Y4	
Brackets for parenthesis	Y5	Y5	
Dashes for parenthesis	Y5	Y5-6	Y5 - manipulate complex structures and cohesion ↓
Commas for parenthesis	Y5	Y5-6	
Commas to avoid ambiguity	Y5	Y5-6	
Semicolon between clauses	Y6	Y6	Y6 - control grammar for meaning, formality and effect
Colon between clauses	Y6	Y6	
Dash between clauses	Y6	Y6	
Colon introducing a list	Y6	Y6	
Semicolons within lists	Y6	Y6	
Bullet-point punctuation	Y6	Y6	
Hyphens to avoid ambiguity	Y6	Y6	

Spellings Overview

Year 1

Half-term	Spelling focus	Key statutory content	Word bank
Autumn 1	CVC / CCVC / CVCC words	Spell words using taught GPCs	cat, dog, sun, run, map, fish, ship, shop, thin, frog, stop, clap, grin, jump, milk, hand, tent, sand, plant, crisp
Autumn 2	Alternative graphemes	Alternative spellings for known phonemes	rain, train, paint, snail, play, day, stay, great, break, eight; see, tree, green, feet, sheep, meat, team, these, happy, key; boat, coat, road, goat, snow, grow, know, toe
Spring 1	Plurals	-s and -es	cats, dogs, books, pens, chairs, trees, cars, games, stars, friends; boxes, buses, wishes, dishes, brushes, foxes, churches, beaches, matches, glasses
Spring 2	Prefix un-	Adding un- to root words	unable, unhappy, unfair, unkind, unsafe, untidy, unwell, unpack, unlock, untie, unzip, unwrap, unknown, unusual, unlucky
Summer 1	Suffixes	-ing, -ed, -er, -est	jumping, helping, looking, playing, reading, walking, running, swimming, clapping, sitting; jumped, helped, looked, played, walked, started, painted, wanted; smaller, smallest, faster, fastest, quicker, quickest
Summer 2	Common exception words	Statutory Y1 common exception words and days	the, a, to, do, today, of, said, says, are, were, was, is, his, has, I, you, your, they, be, he, me, she, we, no, go, so, by, my, here, there, where, love, come, some, one, once, two, school, friend, because, beautiful, people, could, would, should

Year 2

Half-term	Spelling focus	Key statutory content	Word bank
Autumn 1	Alternative spellings	Alternative graphemes for known phonemes	gem, giant, magic, gentle, large, age, bridge, badge, edge, fudge; city, race, ice, fancy, circle, space, pencil, cent, scene, science; knock, knee, know, knot, knife, knight, knit, knew, known, knuckle
Autumn 2	Common exception words	Statutory Y2 common exception words	again, any, beautiful, break, busy, Christmas, cold, door, every, fast, father, find, floor, gold, grass, great, half, hold, hour, kind, last, many, mind, money, most, move, Mr, Mrs, old, only, parents, pass, people, plant, poor, pretty, prove, should, steak, sugar, sure, told, water, who, whole, wild, would
Spring 1	-ment / -ness	Adding -ment and -ness	enjoyment, payment, agreement, movement, excitement, amazement, development, treatment, punishment, government; kindness, sadness, happiness, darkness, illness, weakness, goodness, fairness, carelessness, laziness
Spring 2	-ful / -less	Adding -ful and -less	helpful, careful, hopeful, painful, beautiful, thankful, cheerful, wonderful, colourful, powerful; careless, hopeless, fearless, helpless, endless, homeless, useless, harmless, thoughtless, speechless
Summer 1	-ly	Adding -ly	quickly, slowly, quietly, loudly, carefully, carelessly, happily, sadly, angrily, gently, bravely, finally, usually, completely, really
Summer 2	Homophones, contractions & possession	Common homophones; contracted forms; singular possessive apostrophe	there, their, they're, here, hear, see, sea, be, bee, bare, bear, blue, blew, one, won, no, know, right, write, whole, hole; can't, couldn't, didn't, don't, hasn't, haven't, he's, I'm, it's, she's, shouldn't, wasn't, we're, weren't, you're; girl's, boy's, dog's, teacher's, baby's, child's

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Year 3

Half-term	Spelling focus	Key statutory content	Word bank
Autumn 1	dis-, mis-, re-	Prefixes	disagree, disappear, dislike, disobey, dishonest, disappoint, disapprove, disconnect, discover, disrespect; misbehave, mislead, misplace, misunderstand, mistake, misread, miscount, misheard, misprint, misinform; redo, rebuild, rewrite, replay, reappear, revisit, rearrange, recycle, reconnect, reconsider
Autumn 2	sub-, inter-, super-, anti-, auto-	Further prefixes	submarine, subway, subheading, submerge, subdivide, substandard; international, interact, interview, interconnect, interfere, intercity; supermarket, superhero, superhuman, supernatural, superstar, superpower; antisocial, antiseptic, anticlockwise, antibiotic, antidote, antifreeze; autobiography, automatic, autograph, autopilot, automobile, autocorrect
Spring 1	-ation	Words ending -ation	information, education, preparation, celebration, decoration, operation, position, question, description, imagination, population, conversation, explanation, organisation, admiration
Spring 2	-ly / -ous	Further suffixes	slowly, quickly, carefully, quietly, suddenly, completely, usually, finally, angrily, happily; dangerous, famous, poisonous, mountainous, enormous, various, curious, serious, generous, nervous
Summer 1	-sure / -ture / -sion	Statutory word endings	measure, treasure, pleasure, leisure, pressure, exposure; picture, nature, future, adventure, creature, feature, capture, mixture, furniture, departure; division, television, decision, confusion, invasion, occasion, permission, expression, possession, discussion
Summer 2	Homophones & commonly confused words	Further homophones	accept, except, affect, effect, ball, bawl, brake, break, fair, fare, grate, great, groan, grown, heel, heal, mail, male, medal, meddle, peace, piece, plain, plane, scene, seen, weather, whether, whose, who's

Year 4

Half-term	Spelling focus	Key statutory content	Word bank
Autumn 1	in-, il-, im-, ir-	Prefixes indicating negation	incorrect, inactive, incomplete, invisible, insecure, inaccurate; illegal, illogical, illegible, illiterate, illicit; impossible, immature, impatient, imperfect, impolite, immortal; irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible, irrational, irreplaceable, irresistible
Autumn 2	-cious / -tious / -cial / -tial	Statutory word endings	precious, delicious, gracious, spacious, ferocious, conscious, vicious, suspicious; ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious, repetitious, superstitious; special, official, social, commercial, financial, artificial, beneficial; partial, essential, potential, initial, confidential, substantial, residential
Spring 1	-ant / -ance / -ancy	Word endings	important, assistant, constant, distant, brilliant, relevant, significant, tolerant, abundant, hesitant; appearance, importance, assistance, attendance, distance, guidance, insurance, resistance, performance, acceptance; vacancy, expectancy, infancy, hesitancy, consultancy, relevancy
Spring 2	-ent / -ence / -ency	Word endings	different, excellent, confident, dependent, independent, frequent, patient, violent, ancient, convenient; difference, confidence, dependence, independence, existence, experience, evidence, patience, violence, convenience; frequency, urgency, agency, emergency, efficiency, consistency
Summer 1	Word families	Morphology and related words	appear, appearance; assist, assistance; confident, confidence; depend, dependent; differ, different; exist, existence; frequent, frequency; important, importance; persist, persistence; prefer, preference; create, creation; decide, decision; permit, permission; protect, protection; educate, education
Summer 2	Possession & homophones	Plural possession and further homophones	girls', boys', teachers', parents', children's, men's, women's, babies', horses', schools'; aisle, isle, aloud, allowed, altar, alter, cent, scent, cereal, serial, council, counsel, desert, dessert, draft, draught, heard, herd, led, lead, morning, mourning, past, passed, precede, proceed, profit, prophet, steal, steel

Year 5

Half-term	Spelling focus	Key statutory content	Word bank
Autumn 1	-able / -ible	Word endings and root words	adorable, comfortable, considerable, dependable, enjoyable, fashionable, knowledgeable, manageable, noticeable, reliable, reasonable, valuable; audible, edible, horrible, legible, possible, sensible, visible, responsible, terrible, flexible
Autumn 2	-ably / -ibly	Adverbial suffixes	comfortably, considerably, dependably, enjoyably, fashionably, knowledgeably, manageably, noticeably, reliably, reasonably, valuably; audibly, horribly, possibly, sensibly, visibly, responsibly, terribly, flexibly
Spring 1	Silent letters	Statutory silent-letter patterns	doubt, debt, doubtful, subtle, lamb, thumb, numb, crumb, climb, plumber; know, knee, knife, knock, knight, knowledge, knuckle; write, wrist, wrong, wreck, wrap, wren, answer, sword, whole; listen, castle, fasten, whistle, Christmas, often; could, would, should, calm, half, talk, walk, salmon
Spring 2	Word origins	Greek, Latin and French vocabulary	telephone, photograph, geography, physical, technology, chemist, character, scheme, chorus, echo; aquatic, audience, dictate, transport, visible, annual, manual, numerous, primary, science; ballet, bouquet, chauffeur, croissant, restaurant, genre, machine, parliament, brochure, souvenir
Summer 1	Homophones & confusables	Commonly confused words	advice/advise, affect/effect, aisle/isle, aloud/allowed, altar/alter, ascent/assent, brake/break, complement/compliment, descent/dissent, draft/draught, farther/further, guessed/guest, heard/herd, led/lead, morning/mourning, precede/proceed, principal/principle, profit/prophet, stationary/stationery, steal/steel
Summer 2	Statutory Y5/6 words	Statutory word list	accommodate, accompany, according, achieve, aggressive, amateur, ancient, apparent, appreciate, attached, available, average, awkward, bargain, bruise, category, cemetery, committee, communicate, community, competition, conscience, conscious, controversy, convenience, correspond, criticise, curiosity, definite, desperate, determined, develop, dictionary, disastrous, embarrass, environment, equip, equipped, especially, exaggerate, excellent, existence, explanation, familiar, foreign, forty, frequently, government, guarantee, harass, hindrance, identity, immediate, individual, interfere, interrupt, language, leisure, lightning, marvellous, mischievous, necessary, neighbour, nuisance, occupy, occur, opportunity, parliament, persuade, physical, prejudice, privilege, profession, programme, pronunciation, queue, recognise, recommend, relevant, restaurant, rhythm, sacrifice, secretary, shoulder, signature, sincerely, sufficient, suggest, symbol, system, temperature, thorough, twelfth, variety, vegetable, vehicle, yacht

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Year 6

Half-term	Spelling focus	Key statutory content	Word bank
Autumn 1	Morphology	Root words, prefixes, suffixes and word families	explain, explanation, inform, information, educate, education, operate, operation, admire, admiration, observe, observation, celebrate, celebration, prepare, preparation, persuade, persuasion, communicate, communication; comfortable, reasonable, reliable, sensible, expensive, important, confident, different
Autumn 2	Prefixes & meaning	Further prefixes and their meanings	reconsider, reconstruct, reorganise, reintroduce, reestablish, revolutionise; deactivate, decompose, defrost, devalue, decentralise, deconstruct; transport, transfer, transform, transatlantic, transcontinental, transformation; circumference, circumnavigate, circumstantial; international, interconnected, interdependent, interchangeable, intercontinental
Spring 1	Silent letters & difficult patterns	Consolidation of complex spellings	acquire, conscience, conscious, doubt, foreign, guarantee, island, knowledge, leisure, lightning, mischievous, mnemonic, necessary, nuisance, psychology, queue, rhythm, shoulder, signature, thorough, vehicle, yacht
Spring 2	Homophones & confusables	Statutory Y5/6 homophones/confusables	advice/advise, device/devise, licence/license, practice/practise, prophecy/prophesy, farther/further, affect/effect, principal/principle, stationary/stationery, complement/compliment, conscience/conscious, descent/dissent, precede/proceed, wary/weary, morale/moral, draft/draught, ascent/assent, past/passed, cereal/serial, foreword/forward
Summer 1	Statutory words	Mastery of Y5/6 statutory word list	accommodate, accompany, according, achieve, aggressive, amateur, apparent, appreciate, attached, available, average, awkward, category, committee, communicate, competition, controversy, convenience, correspond, criticise, curiosity, definite, desperate, determined, disastrous, embarrass, environment, equip, especially, exaggerate, excellent, familiar, frequently, government, harass, hindrance, identity, immediate, individual, interfere, interrupt, language, marvellous, necessary, neighbour, occupy, occur, opportunity, persuade, prejudice, privilege, profession, pronunciation, recognise, recommend, relevant, sacrifice, secretary, sincerely, sufficient, symbol, temperature, vegetable, vehicle
Summer 2	Mastery, proofreading & transfer	Independent application of spelling knowledge	architecture, consequence, determination, extraordinary, independence, influential, interpretation, misunderstanding, recommendation, responsibility, significance, substantial, transformation, unnecessary, vocabulary, accommodation, concentration, consideration, discrimination, entrepreneur, explanation, imagination, investigation, organisation, qualification, representation, sophisticated, spontaneous, transparent, unpredictable, vulnerability