

# Spelling Policy on a Page:



## Curriculum Intent:

**At Parish Primary School, we believe that all our children can become fluent, confident and competent spellers. We encourage our pupils to think and write creatively, be adventurous with their use of language and to write with clear purpose and for pleasure. In order for these aims to be realised, it is essential that our pupils learn the knowledge and skills to spell accurately. We want our pupils to be equipped with the knowledge and range of strategies for learning spelling and to be able to apply their strategies when spelling words in their writing.**

**To ensure this happens we teach using Ready Steady Spell. This is a systematic spelling programme which covers all the National Curriculum objectives in a cyclical way.**



## Curriculum Sequencing:

**Ready Steady Spell is a systematic, evidence-based spelling scheme designed for Key Stage 1 and 2 (Years 2-6) that aligns with the Writing Framework and supports a consistent whole-school approach. Building on phonics knowledge, it engages children and ensures long-term progress through a cyclical curriculum that revisits key spelling patterns regularly to embed learning. Lessons follow a clear four-step routine: Revisit & Review, Teach, Practise & Apply. Children are introduced to seven practical strategies—such as Syll-a-beat and Rule Rhyme—to help them find the most effective way to remember spellings. Spellings are carefully linked to National Curriculum content, helping children apply and reinforce spelling knowledge across subjects. The lessons are inclusive, supporting all learners, including those with additional needs or English as an additional language, and are backed by extensive teacher training (including through Literacy Counts) to ensure confident and consistent delivery.**

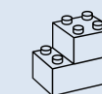
## The Importance of Spelling:



**Teaching Ready Steady Spell is important as it provides a structured, systematic approach with clear progression that supports all learners. The programme revisits key spelling rules regularly to reinforce understanding and ensure long-term retention. By integrating phonics and using multi-sensory techniques, it helps children grasp spelling patterns, build confidence and become more independent writers. Its engaging format supports literacy across the curriculum and promotes consistent progress in both reading and writing.**

## KS1 Implementation

**In Key Stage 1 (Year 2), Ready Steady Spell builds on children's strong phonics foundations once they are ready, gradually introducing spelling rules and patterns. The programme uses a clear, step-by-step routine where each week focuses on a specific spelling concept, supported by multisensory activities like songs, rhymes and games to help children understand and remember the rules. Daily sessions include guided practice, word sorting and spelling tasks that increase in complexity over time. Children apply their spelling in writing activities to reinforce learning, while regular review and dictation consolidate skills, ensuring steady progress throughout the year.**

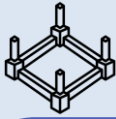


## KS2 Implementation

**In Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6), Ready Steady Spell builds on and extends children's existing spelling knowledge. The programme follows a structured weekly routine that introduces more advanced spelling rules and patterns. Lessons include focused teaching of spelling strategies, multisensory activities and word investigations to deepen understanding. Children engage in guided practice, spelling challenges and are provided with opportunities to apply their learning in writing tasks across the curriculum. Regular review, dictation and quizzes help consolidate skills and track progress. This approach ensures continued development of spelling accuracy, vocabulary and confidence throughout Key Stage 2.**



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## Strong Foundations:

**Spelling is crucial for strong foundations in literacy and cognitive development because it strengthens connections between brain areas involved in thinking, memory, and motor skills. It also improves fine motor skills, essential for other daily tasks and academic pursuits.**

**We ensure that our children have enough teaching and practice for them to become fluent in foundational knowledge and skills, such as in handwriting and composing simple sentences and complex tasks are not introduced too soon.**



## Inclusive Practice - Meeting the needs of all learners:

**Ready Steady Spell is a structured and inclusive spelling programme designed to support all learners. It follows a consistent weekly routine that includes the introduction of spelling rules, engaging practice activities, dictation and opportunities to apply learning in writing. This predictable structure helps build confidence and supports children with a range of learning needs, including those with SEND and EAL. The programme uses multisensory approaches to suit different learning styles and offers differentiated word lists to ensure appropriate challenge and support for every child. Regular, low-stakes assessments help track progress and inform teaching. By linking spelling to real writing contexts, Ready Steady Spell supports children to develop lasting skills in a meaningful way.**



## Evidence of Learning

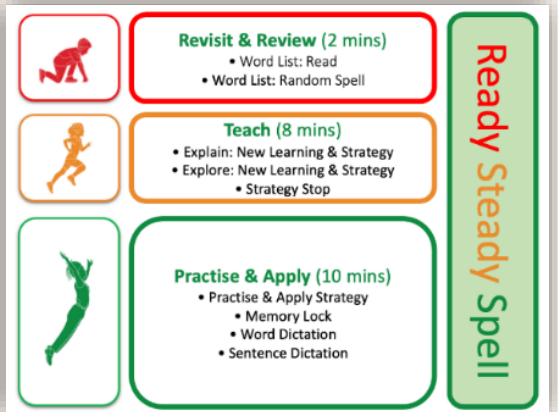
**Evidencing learning during Ready Steady Spell lessons involves regularly assessing children's understanding through spelling tests, written activities, and verbal feedback. Children record their written outcomes in a pupil booklet, providing a clear record of their progress. This ongoing assessment helps identify areas needing reinforcement, inform future teaching, and celebrate successes.**

**Additionally, children are encouraged to apply spelling rules and strategies when writing across the curriculum, reinforcing their skills in a variety of subjects and real-life contexts.**



## Lesson Structure

**The four-part teaching sequence is designed to enable children to revisit prior learning as well as acquire additional spellings linked to lesson objective(s). The ability to apply these through taught strategies at specific points of new learning is an important and essential element of teaching.**



## Rainbow Promises:

**Our spelling curriculum is closely linked to our Rainbow Promises. Teaching spelling helps build resilience and perseverance by encouraging children to keep trying while spelling is a key component of being an articulate learner. Teaching spelling also nurtures children's curiosity by encouraging them to explore word patterns, rule rhymes and language rules- all while building on previous knowledge and skills. The teaching of spelling builds on previous learning by regularly revisiting and reinforcing spelling rules and patterns. Its structured routine connects new words and concepts to prior knowledge, helping consolidate skills over time**



## Staff CPD:

**At Parish, staff CPD for Ready Steady Spell is a key priority to ensure high-quality teaching of spelling and to embed strong foundational literacy practices as part of a wider, whole-school approach to literacy. To support this, Literacy Counts has been in to school to deliver up-to-date training, equipping staff with the latest strategies and resources aligned with the Ready Steady Spell programme. In addition, regular coaching cycles are embedded into our CPD approach, allowing teachers to reflect on practice, implement new techniques and receive constructive feedback. Staff are also supported by the English Lead through model lessons, team teaching and planning support, ensuring consistent delivery and building confidence in teaching spelling within the broader context of developing literacy across the curriculum.**



## Impact:

**Ready Steady Spell has provided:**

- **Increased engagement and confidence in spelling across the curriculum. This is supported by clear improvements in whole-school data.**
- **Help to embed key spelling concepts through repetition and fun activities. This is supported by pupil voice.**
- **Support for whole-school coherence in spelling teaching and consistency across school.**
- **Effective inclusive support for all learners**