

In Year 1, the art of phonics is developed; the work will consist of looking at how various sounds are spelled in different words. Children will go over all the phonemes (sounds) they learned in Reception. They will learn both digraphs (sounds made by two letters, such as 'ee' or 'ir') and trigraphs (sounds made by three letters, such as 'igh' and 'tch').



SPELLING RULES FOR YEAR 1

Look at how the same sounds can be made by different groups of letters, for example:

oy and oi (as in 'toy' and 'coin');

ai and ay (as in 'rain' and 'say');

oe (as in 'toe' and 'goes');

ir, ur (as in 'dirt' and 'turn');

er unstressed (as in 'under and better');

er stressed (as in 'her' and 'verb');

ar (as in 'car' and 'start');

ee (as in 'see' and 'green');

ow and ou (as in 'cow' and 'round');

ow and oe (as in 'flow' and 'toe');

ue and ew (as in 'glue' and 'flew');

ie and igh (as in 'pie' and 'sigh');

or, ore and aw (as in 'for', 'more' and 'raw');

air and are (as in 'fair' and 'dare').

SPLIT DIAGRAPHS

a-e (as in 'make' and 'cake');

i-e (as in 'ice' and 'smile');

o-e (as in 'home' and 'woke');

u-e (as in 'huge' and 'tube').

The -tch sound is usually spelt straight after a single vowel (as in 'catch').

The sound -v at the end of a word is usually followed by the letter -e (as in 'live').

Adding -s or -es sounds to the end of words (as in 'cats' and 'catches').

Adding -ing, -ed or er- to verbs, (as in 'jump', 'jumping', 'jumped' and 'jumper').

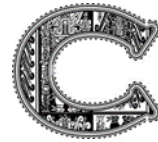
Adding -er and -est to adjectives (as in 'quick', 'quicker' and 'quickest').

Words ending in-y (such as 'funny' and 'family').

Words with new consonant spellings -ph, (as in 'dolphin') and -wh (as in 'what').

Words with the -k sound (as in 'kit' and 'skin').

Adding the prefix -un (as in 'unhappy').



Compound words (as in 'football' and 'playground').

They will also look at how the same groups of letters can make different sounds, for example:

au (as in 'author' and 'dinosaur');

ea (as in 'bead' and 'bread');

oo (as in 'foot' and 'wood');

ear (as in 'hear' and 'bear').

Children will also be taught what are now referred to as 'common exception words' (sometimes called tricky words). These are words commonly found in the English language, but which do not follow the phonic rules that have been taught so far.

the, a, do, to, 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, ask, friend, school.



Here at North Downs School confidence in understanding our language starts with rigorous phonics teaching.

This follows a six stage structured approach called Letters and Sounds. Children are expected to know and use the first 100 and 200 words.

Details on our website.

[https://
www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/
page/?title=Phonics&pid=301](https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Phonics&pid=301)

SPELLING RULES

In school, we are teaching spelling using an investigative approach called Word study. This way of teaching focuses on making links between what the children have learned about how to read words, with what they need to think about in order to spell them.

WORD STUDY

<https://wordstudyspelling.com/>

NATIONAL CURRICULUM SPELLINGS

[https://
assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/
government/uploads/system/uploads/
attachment_data/file/239784/
English_Appendix_1_-_Spelling.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/239784/English_Appendix_1_-_Spelling.pdf)

OXFORD OWL

[https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-
home/advice-for-parents/help-with-
spelling/](https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/advice-for-parents/help-with-spelling/)

SPELLING BY THE RULES.



NORTH DOWNS SCHOOL

SPELLING RULES GUIDE

YEAR 1

The English language is a delightful cornucopia, indeed a legacy, left by varied residents of our land. So many influences, over the centuries, have resulted in a complex system of spellings. In order to support the children at North Downs this leaflet will help and guide you to steer their path to fluency in the important skill of spelling by the rules.