

In Year 2, children take a more in-depth look at the phonic rules and patterns of different words, building upon previous learning.

SPELLING RULES FOR YEAR 2



Words with silent letters **k, g and w** (as in 'knock', 'gnat' and 'write').

Words ending **le, el, al and il** (as in 'middle', 'tunnel', 'animal', 'pencil').

Verbs ending **y** which then changes to **ies** and **ied** (as in 'cry', 'cries' and 'cried').

Words which need a consonant to be doubled before adding **-ing, -ed** (as in 'pat', 'patting', 'patted').

Words with a sound of **'j' at the end; -dge after short vowels** (as in 'badge'), or **-ge** (as in 'huge').

Words with **'j' sound in other positions**
- **g** if before **e, l, and y** (as in 'giraffe' or 'magic');
or as **j** before **a, o and u** (as in 'jar' and 'join').

Unusual uses of vowels, such as **'o'** being used for the **'u'** sound (as in 'other') and **'a'** being used for the **'o'** sound (as in 'warm').

Suffixes -groups of letters added to the end of a word including:

-ly (as in 'badly');
-ment (as in 'enjoyment');
-ful (as in 'playful');
-ness (as in 'sadness');
-less (as in 'hopeless').

Words with the **'or' sound** is usually spelt as **a** before **'l' 'll'** (as in 'ball' and 'walk').

Words with the **'ai' sound at the end of words** with the addition of **'y'** (as in 'try' and 'fly').

Words where apostrophes are used to show contractions, when the apostrophe replaces the missing letter (as in 'do not' changing to 'don't').

Words with a possessive apostrophe for singular nouns (as in 'Jim's' and 'the girl's').

Words ending in **'il'** (such as 'pencil').

Words ending in **-al** (as in 'pedal' and 'animal').

Words ending **-tion** (as in 'fiction' and 'station').

Dropping the **e** off the end of a word when adding **-ing, -ed, -er** (as in 'hiking', 'hiked' and 'hiker').



Homophones, which are pairs of words that sound the same, but are spelt differently:

Such as: there / their / they're, here / hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight.

Children will also learn another group of common exception words (or 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.

COMMON EXCEPTION WORDS

door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children*, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas - and/or others.



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 2

The English language is a delightful cornucopia, 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 assist their path to spelling fluency in the important skill of spelling by the rules.