



# The Northaw Curriculum

## English reading

*Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.*

1 Timothy 4:13  
New International Version

At Northaw, we aim to follow the statutory national curriculum, guidance on relationships and health education, and framework for the early years foundation stage, and the Church of England statement of entitlement through The Northaw Curriculum, which comprises all learning and other experiences, the hidden curriculum, that we plan for our pupils. Programmes of study are enhanced by added value, learning sequences and progression frameworks.

At Northaw, we see pupils as discoverers, exploring subjects. The core subjects are English, mathematics and science. The other foundation subjects are art and design, computing, design and technology, languages (French), geography, history, music; personal, social, health and economic education (including relationships education), physical education and religious education. They build on the areas of learning and development in the early years foundation stage. The prime areas are communication and language, physical development, and personal, social and emotional development. The specific areas are literacy, mathematics, understanding the world, and expressive arts and design.

At Northaw, we are committed to providing an ambitious, inclusive, broad and balanced curriculum rooted in Christian values that endows every child with the knowledge and cultural capital, skills, understanding and vocabulary to fulfil their potential while nurturing well-being, and prepares them for citizenship, future learning and employment, and lifelong faith. Equally designed to meet the needs of pupils whose attainment is significantly above the expected standard, the particularly disadvantaged and those with SEND, our curriculum is demanding, setting suitable challenges and overcoming would-be barriers to achieve the best possible outcomes consistently for all. Building on our Christian vision, The Northaw Curriculum affords space for a deepening spiritual awareness, the development of moral attitudes and a strengthened sense of community. Coherently sequenced, our curriculum frees teachers to deliver clear, engaging lessons, adapted when necessary to address both gaps and misconceptions, and promote appropriate discussion in environments focused on pupils who produce high-quality work and are supported to retain content and acquire mastery. Phonics and reading are prioritised, allowing pupils to access the full education offer; opportunities to develop fluency in mathematics and English across the curriculum bolstered by enhanced learning powers (the 6Rs) lead to success in life. Integrated with our curriculum, daily acts of collective worship are occasions for personal reflection, communal growth and further exploration of life's big questions, sitting alongside academic progress.

## Purpose of study

English has a pre-eminent place in education and in society. A high-quality education in English will teach pupils to speak and write fluently so that they can communicate their ideas and emotions to others and through their reading and listening, others can communicate with them. Through reading in particular, pupils have a chance to develop culturally, emotionally, intellectually, socially and spiritually. Literature, especially, plays a key role in such development. Reading also enables pupils both to acquire knowledge and to build on what they already know. All the skills of language are essential to participating fully as a member of society; pupils, therefore, who do not learn to speak, read and write fluently and confidently are effectively disenfranchised.

### Added value

At Northaw, the overarching aim for English is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. The study of English lends itself to the exploration of ethical issues, and students are expected to consider them sensitively. Swapping books, community volunteers listening to early readers, reading champions maintaining the school library and collecting suggestions for new books, fostering links with the village library in Cuffley, and observing major literary events, including Shakespeare Week, the Summer Reading Challenge and World Book Day, nurture a strong reading culture. Children get the practice they need to acquire fluent transcription skills (spelling and handwriting), which is the foundation for their progress in writing. Teachers directly teach sentence construction, control of grammar and syntax, so that pupils can use them with accuracy, confidence and increasing flair. Teachers have high expectations of how pupils apply their writing skills across the curriculum. Every class has an English working wall. Ofsted's research review series and subject report series, and non-statutory guidance (*The reading framework & The writing framework*) have informed our practice in this area.

## Aims

The Northaw Curriculum for English aims to ensure that all pupils:

- read easily, fluently and with good understanding
- develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information
- acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language
- appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage
- write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences
- use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas
- are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.

**This document should be read in conjunction with The Northaw Reading Framework.**

## Early years foundation stage – nursery and reception

### Literacy

#### *Comprehension*

Children at the expected level of development will:

- demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary
- anticipate – where appropriate – key events in stories
- use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role-play.

#### *Word reading*

Children at the expected level of development will:

- say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs
- read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending
- read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

Children in nursery will be learning to:	Examples of how we support this:
<p>Understand the five key concepts about print:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• print has meaning</li><li>• print can have different purposes</li><li>• we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom</li><li>• the names of the different parts of a book</li><li>• page sequencing</li></ul>	<p>Draw children’s attention to a wide range of examples of print with different functions. These could be a sign to indicate a bus stop or to show danger, a menu for choosing what you want to eat, or a logo that stands for a particular shop.</p> <p>When reading to children, sensitively draw their attention to the parts of the books, for example, the cover, the author, the page number. Show children how to handle books and to turn the pages one at a time. Show children where the text is, and how English print is read left to right and top to bottom. Show children how sentences start with capital letters and end with full stops. Explain the idea of a ‘word’ to children, pointing out how some words are longer than others and how there is always a space before and after a word.</p>
<p>Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• spot and suggest rhymes</li><li>• count or clap syllables in a word</li><li>• recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother</li></ul>	<p>Help children tune into the different sounds in English by making changes to rhymes and songs, like changing a word so that there is still a rhyme, for example: “Twinkle, twinkle yellow car”</p> <p>Making rhymes personal to children: “Hey diddle diddle, the cat and fiddle, the cow jumped over Haroon.”</p>

	<p>Deliberately miss out a word in a rhyme, so the children have to fill it in: “Run, run, as fast as you can, you can’t catch me I’m the gingerbread —.”</p> <p>Use magnet letters to spell a word ending like ‘at’. Encourage children to put other letters in front to create rhyming words like ‘hat’ and ‘cat’.</p>
<p>Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.</p>	<p>Choose books which reflect diversity. Regular sharing of books and discussion of children’s ideas and responses (dialogic reading) helps children to develop their early enjoyment and understanding of books. Simple picture books, including those with no text, can be powerful ways of learning new vocabulary (for example, naming what’s in the picture). More complex stories will help children to learn a wider range of vocabulary. This type of vocabulary is not in everyday use but occurs frequently in books and other contexts. Examples include: ‘caterpillar’, ‘enormous’, ‘forest’, ‘roar’ and ‘invitation’.</p>

### Nursery learning sequence

Phase One activities are arranged under the following seven aspects.

- Aspect 1: General sound discrimination – environmental sounds
- Aspect 2: General sound discrimination – instrumental sounds
- Aspect 3: General sound discrimination – body percussion
- Aspect 4: Rhythm and rhyme
- Aspect 5: Alliteration
- Aspect 6: Voice sounds
- Aspect 7: Oral blending and segmenting

While there is considerable overlap between these aspects, the overarching aim is for children to experience regular, planned opportunities to listen carefully and talk extensively about what they hear, see and do. The boundaries between each strand are flexible and not fixed: practitioners should plan to integrate the activities according to the developing abilities and interests of the children in the setting.

Each aspect is divided into three strands.

- Tuning into sounds (auditory discrimination)
- Listening and remembering sounds (auditory memory and sequencing)
- Talking about sounds (developing vocabulary and language comprehension)

<p>Children in reception will be learning to:</p>	<p>Examples of how we support this:</p>
<p>Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them.</p>	<p>Help children to read the sounds speedily. This will make sound-blending easier.</p>

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<p>Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of known letter–sound correspondences.</p>	<p>Ask children to work out the word you say in sounds: for example, h-a-t &gt; hat; sh-o-p &gt; shop.</p> <p>Show how to say sounds for the letters from left to right and blend them, for example, big, stamp.</p>
<p>Read some letter groups that each represent one sound and say sounds for them.</p>	<p>Help children to become familiar with letter groups, such as ‘th’, ‘sh’, ‘ch’, ‘ee’ ‘or’ ‘igh’.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for children to read words containing familiar letter groups: ‘that’, ‘shop’, ‘chin’, ‘feet’, ‘storm’, ‘night’.</p> <p>Listen to children read some longer words made up of letter-sound correspondences they know: ‘rabbit’, ‘himself’, ‘jumping’.</p>
<p>Read a few common exception words matched to the school’s phonic programme.</p>	<p>Note correspondences between letters and sounds that are unusual or that they have not yet been taught, such as ‘do’, ‘said’, ‘were’.</p>
<p>Read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter–sound correspondences and, where necessary, a few exception words.</p>	<p>Listen to children read aloud, ensuring books are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge.</p> <p>Do not include words that include letter-sound correspondences that children cannot yet read, or exception words that have not been taught.</p> <p>Children should not be required to use other strategies to work out words.</p>
<p>Re-read these books to build up their confidence in word reading, their fluency and their understanding and enjoyment.</p>	<p>Make the books available for children to share at school and at home.</p> <p>Avoid asking children to read books at home they cannot yet read.</p>

Reception learning sequence

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	WEEK 11	WEEK 12
TERM 1	s a t p	i n	m d g	o c k c k	e u r	h b	f f f l l l s s	j v w x	y z z z q u	ch sh th th ng	Long oo	ar
	a, at, as	in, it, is I, an	and, am dad	to, into, go no, the	get, dog, can, got, on, not, cat	up, mum put, had oh, him his, big has	he, she me, we be, of	if, off, you my, they for	will, all went, was from help	too, her with, are yes	then, them that this said	
						ASSESSMENT 1						ASSESSMENT 2
TERM 2	oo (u)	ow	ee	ur	ai	or	oa	er	igh	air	oi	ear ure
	look now down	look now down	see going just have	see going just have	it's do so	it's do so	come some were one	come some were one	like, by when little what	like, by when little what	day away play children	day, away play children
						ASSESSMENT 3						ASSESSMENT 4
TERM 3	CVCC	CCVC	CVC+ with previously taught graphemes	CVC+ with previously taught graphemes	CCVCC	CCVCC	CVC+ polysyllabic	CVC+ compound words	CCC onset words CCVCC+ with previously taught graphemes	CCVCC+ with previously taught graphemes	CVC+ HFW	CVC+ HFW
			your here saw	your here saw	time out house about	time out house about	made make came	I'm very old	called asked looked	their our	Mr, Mrs don't	people could
												ASSESSMENT 5

In the early years foundation stage, English reading is taught discreetly. Systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) is timetabled for at least 30 minutes every day; we follow Letters and Sounds (Phase One) with Foundations in Phonics from Monster Phonics in Nursery, and Monster Phonics in Reception. With mixed-year groups, teachers can facilitate this learning in class through different approaches, including adjusted sequences and split inputs. Every child has a reading record. Storytime, and poetry, rhymes and songs are included daily. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each term with pupils categorised as either working below the expected standard (PRE), working towards the expected standard (WTS), working at the expected standard (EXS) or working at greater depth within the expected standard (GDS) for their year group.

These books are commonly used as stimulation:

Author/Illustrator	Title
Rod Campbell	Dear Zoo
Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler	The Gruffalo
Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler	Room on the Broom
Anna Llenas	The Colour Monster
A A Milne	Winnie the Pooh
Michael Rosen & Kevin Waldron	Chocolate Cake
Michael Rosen & Helen Oxenbury	We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Steve Smallman & Caroline Pedler	Scaredy Bear
Martin Waddell & Helen Oxenbury	Farmer Duck

## Attainment targets

By the end of each key stage, pupils are expected to know, apply and understand the matters, skills and processes specified in the relevant programme of study.

## Subject content

### Key stage 1 – year 1

During year 1, teachers should build on work from the Early Years Foundation Stage, making sure that pupils can sound and blend unfamiliar printed words quickly and accurately using the phonic knowledge and skills that they have already learnt. Teachers should also ensure that pupils continue to learn new grapheme-phoneme correspondences (GPCs) and revise and consolidate those learnt earlier. The understanding that the letter(s) on the page represent the sounds in spoken words should underpin pupils' reading and spelling of all words. This includes common words containing unusual GPCs. The term 'common exception words' is used throughout the programmes of study for such words.

Alongside this knowledge of GPCs, pupils need to develop the skill of blending the sounds into words for reading and establish the habit of applying this skill whenever they encounter new words. This will be supported by practice in reading books consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and skill and their knowledge of common exception words. At the same time they will need to hear, share and discuss a wide range of high- quality books to develop a love of reading and broaden their vocabulary.

Pupils should be helped to read words without overt sounding and blending after a few encounters. Those who are slow to develop this skill should have extra practice.

Pupils' writing during year 1 will generally develop at a slower pace than their reading. This is because they need to encode the sounds they hear in words (spelling skills), develop the physical skill needed for handwriting, and learn how to organise their ideas in writing.

Pupils entering year 1 who have not yet met the early learning goals for literacy should continue to follow their school's curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage to develop their word reading, spelling and language skills. However, these pupils should follow the year 1 programme of study in terms of the books they listen to and discuss, so that they develop their vocabulary and understanding of grammar, as well as their knowledge more generally across the curriculum. If they are still struggling to decode and spell, they need to be taught to do this urgently through a rigorous and systematic phonics programme so that they catch up rapidly.

Teachers should ensure that their teaching develops pupils' oral vocabulary as well as their ability to understand and use a variety of grammatical structures, giving particular support to pupils whose oral language skills are insufficiently developed.

### **Year 1 programme of study**

#### *Reading – word reading*

Pupils should be taught to:

- apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words

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- respond speedily with the correct sound to graphemes (letters or groups of letters) for all 40+ phonemes, including, where applicable, alternative sounds for graphemes
- read accurately by blending sounds in unfamiliar words containing GPCs that have been taught
- read common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word
- read words containing taught GPCs and –s, –es, –ing, –ed, –er and –est endings
- read other words of more than one syllable that contain taught GPCs
- read words with contractions [for example, I'm, I'll, we'll], and understand that the apostrophe represents the omitted letter(s)
- read aloud accurately books that are consistent with their developing phonic knowledge and that do not require them to use other strategies to work out words
- re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.

### Notes and guidance

Pupils should revise and consolidate the GPCs and the common exception words taught in Reception. As soon as they can read words comprising the year 1 GPCs accurately and speedily, they should move on to the year 2 programme of study for word reading.

The number, order and choice of exception words taught will vary according to the phonics programme being used. Ensuring that pupils are aware of the GPCs they contain, however unusual these are, supports spelling later.

Young readers encounter words that they have not seen before much more frequently than experienced readers do, and they may not know the meaning of some of these. Practice at reading such words by sounding and blending can provide opportunities not only for pupils to develop confidence in their decoding skills, but also for teachers to explain the meaning and thus develop pupils' vocabulary.

Pupils should be taught how to read words with suffixes by being helped to build on the root words that they can read already. Pupils' reading and re-reading of books that are closely matched to their developing phonic knowledge and knowledge of common exception words supports their fluency, as well as increasing their confidence in their reading skills. Fluent word reading greatly assists comprehension, especially when pupils come to read longer books.

### *Reading – comprehension*

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by:
  - listening to and discussing a wide range of poems, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently
  - being encouraged to link what they read or hear read to their own experiences
  - becoming very familiar with key stories, fairy stories and traditional tales, retelling them and considering their particular characteristics
  - recognising and joining in with predictable phrases
  - learning to appreciate rhymes and poems, and to recite some by heart
  - discussing word meanings, linking new meanings to those already known
- understand both the books they can already read accurately and fluently and those they listen to by:
  - drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
  - checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading
  - discussing the significance of the title and events
  - making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done

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- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participate in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say
- explain clearly their understanding of what is read to them.

### Notes and guidance

Pupils should have extensive experience of listening to, sharing and discussing a wide range of high-quality books with the teacher, other adults and each other to engender a love of reading at the same time as they are reading independently.

Pupils' vocabulary should be developed when they listen to books read aloud and when they discuss what they have heard. Such vocabulary can also feed into their writing. Knowing the meaning of more words increases pupils' chances of understanding when they read by themselves. The meaning of some new words should be introduced to pupils before they start to read on their own, so that these unknown words do not hold up their comprehension.

However, once pupils have already decoded words successfully, the meaning of those that are new to them can be discussed with them, so contributing to developing their early skills of inference. By listening frequently to stories, poems and non-fiction that they cannot yet read for themselves, pupils begin to understand how written language can be structured in order, for example, to build surprise in narratives or to present facts in non-fiction. Listening to and discussing information books and other non-fiction establishes the foundations for their learning in other subjects. Pupils should be shown some of the processes for finding out information.

Through listening, pupils also start to learn how language sounds and increase their vocabulary and awareness of grammatical structures. In due course, they will be able to draw on such grammar in their own writing.

Rules for effective discussions should be agreed with and demonstrated for pupils. They should help to develop and evaluate them, with the expectation that everyone takes part. Pupils should be helped to consider the opinions of others.

Role-play can help pupils to identify with and explore characters and to try out the language they have listened to.

### Year 1 learning sequence

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	WEEK 11	WEEK 12
<b>TERM 1</b>	ff ss zz ll ck nk	tch ve ai	oi ay oy	suffix s/es ASSESSMENT 1 a_e	e-e i-e o-e	u-e u-e ar	ee suffixes ed/ing	ASSESSMENT 2 ea e@	er ir ur	oo oo oa	ASSESSMENT 3 oe suffixes ed/ing	ou ow ow
	a, be, he, me, we, she, no, go so, to, do, today, I, by, my	love, some come, was is, his has, one once, friend your	the, of said here there you school	house, our where were they says are, ask, put push, pull, full	from, help back, animals will, this, that then, them with, went, off children, just	made, make came, like time, by, my I, I'm into, too don't	see, very day, have when, about out people	look, looked asked, could saw, all down now	Mr, Mrs what their little called	HFW REVISION	more, horse gone, live would school soon, food room	play, way, say may, away been, need keep, feet snow, grow window, know
YEAR 1 CEWs 100 HFWs 200 HFWs												
<b>TERM 2</b>	ue ue ew	ew ASSESSMENT 4 k before y i e	ie ie igh	or or@ aw	au air Prefix un	ASSESSMENT 5 ear ong b r ear (ar)	afe y ph	Wh e o	ASSESSMENT 6 ff ll ss zz ck nk tch	Review ve ai oi ay	Review aj a-e e-e i-e	Review o-e u-e u-e ar
	three, tree tress, green, sleep ever, never, river under, better after	good, took, book looks, looking car, dark, park hard, garden found, round ground, mouse shouted	going, most over, cold told, gave take, place	he's, we're even, began before because girls, birds first	sea, tea, eat each, really these, other-mother another	floppy, any many, every everyone baby, only suddenly pulled	want, wanted great, us has, inside liked, can't didn't, key hear, white	love something coming, fly why, new use, there where, boy	which, head dragon animals couldn't eyes, lived boat, cried	giant, find laughed again, friends different door, jumped stopped	thought through magic narrator once, air, who I've, I'll, these	200 HFW REVISION
200 HFWs												
<b>TERM 3</b>	PHONICS SCREEN	Review ee ea es er	Review ir oo oo (a)	Review oo oe ou ow	ASSESSMENT 7 knee ow ue ue ow	Review ew le le igh	Review or or@ aw uu	Review air ear ear are	Review y wh e	Review o Prefix un k before e, y, i 2 syllable words	Compound Words Numbers Contractions	Days Months Colours
	Nonsense words	be, he, me, we she, no, go so, to, do, today, I, by, my	love, some come, was is, his has, here there, friend your	the, of said house our one once	where were they says are, ask, put push, pull full, a	from, help back, animals will, this, that then, them with, went, just children, off	made, make came, like time, by, my I, I'm into, too don't	see, day very, have when, about out, people	down, now look, looked asked could saw, all	Mr, Mrs their little what called	HFW REVISION	HFW REVISION
YEAR 1 CEWs 100 HFWs												

Systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) is timetabled for at least 30 minutes every day; we follow Monster Phonics. Guided reading is delivered regularly in year groups. Fiction and

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non-fiction books from Monster Phonics are supplemented by various electronic and printed resources, covering other genres. Lessons focus on excerpts and reference the VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Sequence or Summarise); every child has a reading record, and tasks are recorded in books. Storytime, and poetry, rhymes and songs are included daily. Every child has access to mats containing the key vocabulary for science and the other foundation subjects, which are changed at the beginning of each term. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each term with pupils categorised as either working below the expected standard (PRE), working towards the expected standard (WTS), working at the expected standard (EXS) or working at greater depth within the expected standard (GDS) for their year group.

These books are commonly used as stimulation in geography and history:

Author/Illustrator	Title
Emma Adams & James Weston Lewis	The Great Fire of London
Ronda & David Armitage	The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch
Aaron Becker	Journey
Jill Bennett & Nick Sharrat	Seaside Poems
Michael Bond & R W Alley	Paddington's London Story Treasury
Eileen Browne	Handa's Surprise
Mini Grey	Toys in Space
Mairi Hedderwick	Katie Morag and the New Pier
James Mayhew	Katie in London
Anna Milbourne	Stories of Knights & Castles
Kate Pankhurst	Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World
Heather Pindar & Barbara Bakos	Froggy Day
Wen Dee Tan	Lili
Eugene Trivizas & Helen Oxenbury	The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig

## Key stage 1 – year 2

By the beginning of year 2, pupils should be able to read all common graphemes. They should be able to read unfamiliar words containing these graphemes, accurately and without undue hesitation, by sounding them out in books that are matched closely to each pupil's level of word reading knowledge. They should also be able to read many common words containing GPCs taught so far [for example, shout, hand, stop, or dream], without needing to blend the sounds out loud first. Pupils' reading of common exception words [for example, you, could, many, or people], should be secure. Pupils will increase their fluency by being able to read these words easily and automatically. Finally, pupils should be able to retell some familiar stories that have been read to and discussed with them or that they have acted out during year 1.

During year 2, teachers should continue to focus on establishing pupils' accurate and speedy word reading skills. They should also make sure that pupils listen to and discuss a wide range of stories, poems, plays and information books; this should include whole books. The sooner that pupils can read well and do so frequently, the sooner they will be able to increase their vocabulary, comprehension and their knowledge across the wider curriculum.

In writing, pupils at the beginning of year 2 should be able to compose individual sentences orally and then write them down. They should be able to spell correctly many of the words covered in year 1 (see English Appendix 1 of the national curriculum). They should also be able to make phonically plausible attempts to spell words they have not yet learnt. Finally, they should be able to form individual letters correctly, so establishing good handwriting habits from the beginning.

It is important to recognise that pupils begin to meet extra challenges in terms of spelling during year 2. Increasingly, they should learn that there is not always an obvious connection between the way a word is said and the way it is spelt. Variations include different ways of spelling the same sound, the use of so-called silent letters and groups of letters in some words and, sometimes, spelling that has become separated from the way that words are now pronounced, such as the 'le' ending in table. Pupils' motor skills also need to be sufficiently advanced for them to write down ideas that they may be able to compose orally. In addition, writing is intrinsically harder than reading: pupils are likely to be able to read and understand more complex writing (in terms of its vocabulary and structure) than they are capable of producing themselves.

For pupils who do not have the phonic knowledge and skills they need for year 2, teachers should use the year 1 programmes of study for word reading and spelling so that pupils' word reading skills catch up. However, teachers should use the year 2 programme of study for comprehension so that these pupils hear and talk about new books, poems, other writing, and vocabulary with the rest of the class.

### **Year 2 programme of study**

#### *Reading – word reading*

Pupils should be taught to:

- continue to apply phonic knowledge and skills as the route to decode words until automatic decoding has become embedded and reading is fluent
- read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the graphemes taught so far, especially recognising alternative sounds for graphemes

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- read accurately words of two or more syllables that contain the same graphemes as above
- read words containing common suffixes
- read further common exception words, noting unusual correspondences between spelling and sound and where these occur in the word
- read most words quickly and accurately, without overt sounding and blending, when they have been frequently encountered
- read aloud books closely matched to their improving phonic knowledge, sounding out unfamiliar words accurately, automatically and without undue hesitation
- re-read these books to build up their fluency and confidence in word reading.

### Notes and guidance

Pupils should revise and consolidate the GPCs and the common exception words taught in year 1. The exception words taught will vary slightly, depending on the phonics programme being used. As soon as pupils can read words comprising the year 2 GPCs accurately and speedily, they should move on to the years 3 and 4 programme of study for word reading.

When pupils are taught how to read longer words, they should be shown syllable boundaries and how to read each syllable separately before they combine them to read the word.

Pupils should be taught how to read suffixes by building on the root words that they have already learnt. The whole suffix should be taught as well as the letters that make it up.

Pupils who are still at the early stages of learning to read should have ample practice in reading books that are closely matched to their developing phonic knowledge and knowledge of common exception words. As soon as the decoding of most regular words and common exception words is embedded fully, the range of books that pupils can read independently will expand rapidly. Pupils should have opportunities to exercise choice in selecting books and be taught how to do so.

### *Reading – comprehension*

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by:
  - listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently
  - discussing the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related
  - becoming increasingly familiar with and retelling a wider range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales
  - being introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways
  - recognising simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry
  - discussing and clarifying the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary
  - discussing their favourite words and phrases
  - continuing to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some, with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear
- understand both the books that they can already read accurately and fluently and those that they listen to by:
  - drawing on what they already know or on background information and vocabulary provided by the teacher
  - checking that the text makes sense to them as they read and correcting inaccurate reading

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- making inferences on the basis of what is being said and done
- answering and asking questions
- predicting what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say
- explain and discuss their understanding of books, poems and other material, both those that they listen to and those that they read for themselves.

### Notes and guidance

Pupils should be encouraged to read all the words in a sentence and to do this accurately, so that their understanding of what they read is not hindered by imprecise decoding [for example, by reading 'place' instead of 'palace'].

Pupils should monitor what they read, checking that the word they have decoded fits in with what else they have read and makes sense in the context of what they already know about the topic.

The meaning of new words should be explained to pupils within the context of what they are reading, and they should be encouraged to use morphology (such as prefixes) to work out unknown words.

Pupils should learn about cause and effect in both narrative and non-fiction (for example, what has prompted a character's behaviour in a story; why certain dates are commemorated annually). 'Thinking aloud' when reading to pupils may help them to understand what skilled readers do.

Deliberate steps should be taken to increase pupils' vocabulary and their awareness of grammar so that they continue to understand the differences between spoken and written language.

Discussion should be demonstrated to pupils. They should be guided to participate in it and they should be helped to consider the opinions of others. They should receive feedback on their discussions.

Role-play and other drama techniques can help pupils to identify with and explore characters. In these ways, they extend their understanding of what they read and have opportunities to try out the language they have listened to.

Year 2 learning sequence

	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	WEEK 11	WEEK 12	
<b>TERM 1</b>	dge g	c kn	gn wr	le ei il	al homophone	Vowel suffix drop e  Vowel suffix drop letter	Vowel suffix y to i  ASSESSMENT 1	y al (or)	o (u) ey	after W-a  after W-or	after W-ar  after S(zsh)	ti i	
	great break steak find mind, kind behind	wild, child climb old, gold hold cold told	would could should door floor poor	any many pretty move prove improve	most both only every everybody	even people hour whole clothes  thought	busy money hour Christmas	grass class pass past fast last	bath path father plant half	after again sure sugar	water parents beautiful	eye who Mr Mrs	
<b>TERM 2</b>	Constants suffixes Contractions	Possessive Apostrophe	REVIEW dge Adding suffix	REVIEW g Adding suffix	REVIEW c Adding suffix	REVIEW kn Adding suffix	REVIEW gn Adding suffix	REVIEW wr Adding suffix	REVIEW le Adding suffix	REVIEW ei il ai Adding suffix	REVIEW y Adding suffix	REVIEW al (or) Adding suffix	
	Year 2 CEW REVIEW	Year 1&2 CEW REVIEW	find, great kind, steak, mind break, behind	wild, child, climb, old, gold, hold told, cold	would, door floor, could poor, should	any, move prove, many improve, pretty	most, both only, every everybody	even, people, clothes whole	busy, hour Christmas money	grass, class pass, past fast, last	bath, path father, plant half	after, sure again, sugar	
<b>TERM 3</b>	REVIEW o (u) Adding suffix	REVIEW ey Adding suffix	REVIEW W-a Adding suffix	REVIEW W-or Adding suffix	REVIEW W-ar Adding suffix	REVIEW Z(zsh) Adding suffix	REVIEW ti Adding suffix	REVIEW i Adding suffix	ASSESSMENT 4	Homophone Vowel suffix Drop e	Vowel suffix drop e Vowel suffix y to i	Constants suffixes Contractions	Possessive Apostrophe CEWs
	water parents beautiful	Mr, Mrs who eye	thought laughed magic, animals I've, I'll who two	where once couldn't only baby floppy, every suddenly great	any many these small, bear boat home clothes	because we're everyone town how through eyes, boy again	gene horse which pulled fig, why cried, find giant narrator	different pulled lived grandad morning, rabbit that's, things king, across along	great, break steak, every even, busy many everybody pretty, people any, money	find, mind kind, behind wild, child climb, both most, old, gold told, cold, hold whole, clothes only	beautiful move prove improve Who half	would, could, should door, poor, floor Christmas, sure water, Mr, Mrs sugar, eye, parent pass, class, grass bath, last, fast plant, after, again	

Systematic synthetic phonics (SSP) is timetabled for at least 30 minutes every day; we follow Monster Phonics. Guided reading is delivered regularly in year groups. Fiction and non-fiction books from Monster Phonics are supplemented by various electronic and printed resources, covering other genres. Lessons focus on excerpts and reference the VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Sequence or Summarise); every child has a reading record, and tasks are recorded in books. Storytime, and poetry, rhymes and songs are included daily. Every child has access to mats containing the key vocabulary for science and the other foundation subjects, which are changed at the beginning of each term. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each term with pupils categorised as either working below the expected standard (PRE), working towards the expected standard (WTS), working at the expected standard (EXS) or working at greater depth within the expected standard (GDS) for their year group.

These books are commonly used as stimulation in geography and history:

Author/Illustrator	Title
Emma Adams & James Weston Lewis	The Great Fire of London
Ronda & David Armitage	The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch
Aaron Becker	Journey
Jill Bennett & Nick Sharrat	Seaside Poems
Michael Bond & R W Alley	Paddington's London Story Treasury
Eileen Browne	Handa's Surprise
Mini Grey	Toys in Space
Mairi Hedderwick	Katie Morag and the New Pier
James Mayhew	Katie in London
Anna Milbourne	Stories of Knights & Castles
Kate Pankhurst	Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World
Heather Pindar & Barbara Bakos	Froggy Day
Wen Dee Tan	Lili

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Eugene Trivizas & Helen Oxenbury	The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig
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## Lower key stage 2 – years 3 and 4

By the beginning of year 3, pupils should be able to read books written at an age-appropriate interest level. They should be able to read them accurately and at a speed that is sufficient for them to focus on understanding what they read rather than on decoding individual words. They should be able to decode most new words outside their spoken vocabulary, making a good approximation to the word's pronunciation. As their decoding skills become increasingly secure, teaching should be directed more towards developing their vocabulary and the breadth and depth of their reading, making sure that they become independent, fluent and enthusiastic readers who read widely and frequently. They should be developing their understanding and enjoyment of stories, poetry, plays and non-fiction, and learning to read silently. They should also be developing their knowledge and skills in reading non-fiction about a wide range of subjects. They should be learning to justify their views about what they have read: with support at the start of year 3 and increasingly independently by the end of year 4.

Pupils should be able to write down their ideas with a reasonable degree of accuracy and with good sentence punctuation. Teachers should therefore be consolidating pupils' writing skills, their vocabulary, their grasp of sentence structure and their knowledge of linguistic terminology. Teaching them to develop as writers involves teaching them to enhance the effectiveness of what they write as well as increasing their competence. Teachers should make sure that pupils build on what they have learnt, particularly in terms of the range of their writing and the more varied grammar, vocabulary and narrative structures from which they can draw to express their ideas. Pupils should be beginning to understand how writing can be different from speech. Joined handwriting should be the norm; pupils should be able to use it fast enough to keep pace with what they want to say.

Pupils' spelling of common words should be correct, including common exception words and other words that they have learnt (see English Appendix 1 of the national curriculum). Pupils should spell words as accurately as possible using their phonic knowledge and other knowledge of spelling, such as morphology and etymology.

Most pupils will not need further direct teaching of word reading skills: they are able to decode unfamiliar words accurately, and need very few repeated experiences of this before the word is stored in such a way that they can read it without overt sound-blending. They should demonstrate understanding of figurative language, distinguish shades of meaning among related words and use age-appropriate, academic vocabulary.

As in key stage 1, however, pupils who are still struggling to decode need to be taught to do this urgently through a rigorous and systematic phonics programme so that they catch up rapidly with their peers. If they cannot decode independently and fluently, they will find it increasingly difficult to understand what they read and to write down what they want to say. As far as possible, however, these pupils should follow the year 3 and 4 programme of study in terms of listening to new books, hearing and learning new vocabulary and grammatical structures, and discussing these.

Specific requirements for pupils to discuss what they are learning and to develop their wider skills in spoken language form part of this programme of study. In years 3 and 4, pupils should become more familiar with and confident in using language in a greater variety of situations, for a variety of audiences and purposes, including through drama, formal presentations and debate.

## Lower key stage 2 programme of study

### *Reading – word reading*

Pupils should be taught to:

- apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (etymology and morphology) as listed in English Appendix 1 of the national curriculum, both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words they meet
- read further exception words, noting the unusual correspondences between spelling and sound, and where these occur in the word.

### Notes and guidance

At this stage, teaching comprehension should be taking precedence over teaching word reading directly. Any focus on word reading should support the development of vocabulary.

When pupils are taught to read longer words, they should be supported to test out different pronunciations. They will attempt to match what they decode to words they may have already heard but may not have seen in print [for example, in reading 'technical', the pronunciation /tɛʃnɪkəl/ ('tetchnical') might not sound familiar, but /tɛknɪkəl/ ('teknical') should].

### *Reading – comprehension*

Pupils should be taught to:

- develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by:
  - listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
  - reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
  - using dictionaries to check the meaning of words that they have read
  - increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and retelling some of these orally
  - identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books
  - preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone, volume and action
  - discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
  - recognising some different forms of poetry [for example, free verse, narrative poetry]
- understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
  - checking that the text makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and explaining the meaning of words in context
  - asking questions to improve their understanding of a text
  - drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
  - predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
  - identifying main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarising these
  - identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning
- retrieve and record information from non-fiction
- participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say.

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### Notes and guidance

The focus should continue to be on pupils' comprehension as a primary element in reading. The knowledge and skills that pupils need in order to comprehend are very similar at different ages. This is why the programmes of study for comprehension in years 3 and 4 and years 5 and 6 are similar: the complexity of the writing increases the level of challenge.

Pupils should be taught to recognise themes in what they read, such as the triumph of good over evil or the use of magical devices in fairy stories and folk tales.

They should also learn the conventions of different types of writing (for example, the greeting in letters, a diary written in the first person or the use of presentational devices such as numbering and headings in instructions).

Pupils should be taught to use the skills they have learnt earlier and continue to apply these skills to read for different reasons, including for pleasure, or to find out information and the meaning of new words.

Pupils should continue to have opportunities to listen frequently to stories, poems, non-fiction and other writing, including whole books and not just extracts, so that they build on what was taught previously. In this way, they also meet books and authors that they might not choose themselves. Pupils should also have opportunities to exercise choice in selecting books and be taught how to do so, with teachers making use of any library services and expertise to support this.

Reading, re-reading, and rehearsing poems and plays for presentation and performance give pupils opportunities to discuss language, including vocabulary, extending their interest in the meaning and origin of words. Pupils should be encouraged to use drama approaches to understand how to perform plays and poems to support their understanding of the meaning. These activities also provide them with an incentive to find out what expression is required, so feeding into comprehension.

In using non-fiction, pupils should know what information they need to look for before they begin and be clear about the task. They should be shown how to use contents pages and indexes to locate information.

Pupils should have guidance about the kinds of explanations and questions that are expected from them. They should help to develop, agree on, and evaluate rules for effective discussion. The expectation should be that all pupils take part.

### Lower key stage 2 learning sequence

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year A	Ug (Raymond Briggs) Stig of the Dump (Clive King) Stone Age Boy (Satoshi Kitamura)	Romans on the Rampage (Jeremy Strong)	The Abominables (Eva Ibbotson, Jamie Littler & Sharon Rentta)
Year B	Fantastic Mr Fox (Roald Dahl)	How to Train Your Dragon (Cressida Cowell)	The Firework-Maker's Daughter (Philip Pullman)

Whole-class guided reading is timetabled for at least 90 minutes across each week. Books are supplemented by various electronic and printed resources, covering other genres. Lessons focus on excerpts and reference the VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Sequence or Summarise). Every child has a reading record, but a more freestyle approach maintains engagement, and tasks are retained in folders. Pupils have access to mats containing the key vocabulary for science and the other foundation

## The Northaw Curriculum – English reading

subjects, which are changed at the beginning of each term. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each term with pupils categorised as either working below the expected standard (PRE), working towards the expected standard (WTS), working at the expected standard (EXS) or working at greater depth within the expected standard (GDS) for their year group.

## Upper key stage 2 – years 5 and 6

By the beginning of year 5, pupils should be able to read aloud a wider range of poetry and books written at an age-appropriate interest level with accuracy and at a reasonable speaking pace. They should be able to read most words effortlessly and to work out how to pronounce unfamiliar written words with increasing automaticity. If the pronunciation sounds unfamiliar, they should ask for help in determining both the meaning of the word and how to pronounce it correctly.

They should be able to prepare readings, with appropriate intonation to show their understanding, and should be able to summarise and present a familiar story in their own words. They should be reading widely and frequently, outside as well as in school, for pleasure and information. They should be able to read silently, with good understanding, inferring the meanings of unfamiliar words, and then discuss what they have read.

Pupils should be able to write down their ideas quickly. Their grammar and punctuation should be broadly accurate. Pupils' spelling of most words taught so far should be accurate and they should be able to spell words that they have not yet been taught by using what they have learnt about how spelling works in English.

During years 5 and 6, teachers should continue to emphasise pupils' enjoyment and understanding of language, especially vocabulary, to support their reading and writing. Pupils' knowledge of language, gained from stories, plays, poetry, non-fiction and textbooks, will support their increasing fluency as readers, their facility as writers, and their comprehension. As in years 3 and 4, pupils should be taught to enhance the effectiveness of their writing as well as their competence.

It is essential that pupils whose decoding skills are poor are taught through a rigorous and systematic phonics programme so that they catch up rapidly with their peers in terms of their decoding and spelling. However, as far as possible, these pupils should follow the upper key stage 2 programme of study in terms of listening to books and other writing that they have not come across before, hearing and learning new vocabulary and grammatical structures, and having a chance to talk about all of these.

By the end of year 6, pupils' reading and writing should be sufficiently fluent and effortless for them to manage the general demands of the curriculum in year 7, across all subjects and not just in English, but there will continue to be a need for pupils to learn subject-specific vocabulary. They should be able to reflect their understanding of the audience for and purpose of their writing by selecting appropriate vocabulary and grammar. Teachers should prepare pupils for secondary education by ensuring that they can consciously control sentence structure in their writing and understand why sentences are constructed as they are. Pupils should understand nuances in vocabulary choice and age-appropriate, academic vocabulary. This involves consolidation, practice and discussion of language.

Specific requirements for pupils to discuss what they are learning and to develop their wider skills in spoken language form part of this programme of study. In years 5 and 6, pupils' confidence, enjoyment and mastery of language should be extended through public speaking, performance and debate.

## Upper key stage 2 programme of study

### *Reading – word reading*

Pupils should be taught to:

- apply their growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes (morphology and etymology), as listed in English Appendix 1 of the national curriculum, both to read aloud and to understand the meaning of new words that they meet.

### Notes and guidance

At this stage, there should be no need for further direct teaching of word reading skills for almost all pupils. If pupils are struggling or failing in this, the reasons for this should be investigated. It is imperative that pupils are taught to read during their last two years at primary school if they enter year 5 not being able to do so.

Pupils should be encouraged to work out any unfamiliar word. They should focus on all the letters in a word so that they do not, for example, read 'invitation' for 'imitation' simply because they might be more familiar with the first word. Accurate reading of individual words, which might be key to the meaning of a sentence or paragraph, improves comprehension.

When teachers are reading with or to pupils, attention should be paid to new vocabulary – both a word's meaning(s) and its correct pronunciation.

### *Reading – comprehension*

Pupils should be taught to:

- maintain positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by:
  - continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
  - reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes
  - increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books, including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and books from other cultures and traditions
  - recommending books that they have read to their peers, giving reasons for their choices
  - identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a wide range of writing
  - making comparisons within and across books
  - learning a wider range of poetry by heart
  - preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience
- understand what they read by:
  - checking that the book makes sense to them, discussing their understanding and exploring the meaning of words in context
  - asking questions to improve their understanding
  - drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
  - predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
  - summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas
  - identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning

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- discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader
- distinguish between statements of fact and opinion
- retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction
- participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously
- explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates, maintaining a focus on the topic and using notes where necessary
- provide reasoned justifications for their views.

### Notes and guidance

Even though pupils can now read independently, reading aloud to them should include whole books so that they meet books and authors that they might not choose to read themselves.

The knowledge and skills that pupils need in order to comprehend are very similar at different ages. Pupils should continue to apply what they have already learnt to more complex writing.

Pupils should be taught to recognise themes in what they read, such as loss or heroism. They should have opportunities to compare characters, consider different accounts of the same event and discuss viewpoints (both of authors and of fictional characters), within a text and across more than one text.

They should continue to learn the conventions of different types of writing, such as the use of the first person in writing diaries and autobiographies.

Pupils should be taught the technical and other terms needed for discussing what they hear and read, such as metaphor, simile, analogy, imagery, style and effect.

In using reference books, pupils need to know what information they need to look for before they begin and need to understand the task. They should be shown how to use contents pages and indexes to locate information.

The skills of information retrieval that are taught should be applied, for example, in reading history, geography and science textbooks, and in contexts where pupils are genuinely motivated to find out information, for example, reading information leaflets before a gallery or museum visit or reading a theatre programme or review. Teachers should consider making use of any library services and expertise to support this.

Pupils should have guidance about and feedback on the quality of their explanations and contributions to discussions.

Pupils should be shown how to compare characters, settings, themes and other aspects of what they read.

**Upper key stage 2 learning sequence**

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Year A	Secrets of a Sun King (Emma Carroll)	The Girl of Ink & Stars (Kiran Millwood Hargrave)	Street Child (Berlie Doherty)
Year B	History Hunters – Ancient Greece (Nancy Dickmann)  Who Let the Gods Out? (Maz Evans)  Helen of Troy (Susan Gates)	Holes (Louis Sachar)	The Fire Cats of London (Anna Fargher)

Whole-class guided reading is timetabled for at least 90 minutes across each week. Books are supplemented by various electronic and printed resources, covering other genres. Lessons focus on excerpts and reference the VIPERS (Vocabulary, Inference, Prediction, Explanation, Retrieval, and Sequence or Summarise). Every child has a reading record, but a more freestyle approach maintains engagement, and tasks are retained in folders. Pupils have access to mats containing the key vocabulary for science and the other foundation subjects, which are changed at the beginning of each term. Summative assessment is completed at the end of each term with pupils categorised as either working below the expected standard (PRE), working towards the expected standard (WTS), working at the expected standard (EXS) or working at greater depth within the expected standard (GDS) for their year group.