

Spelling at Newsham Primary School



At Newsham we believe in supporting children to develop key literacy skills. Learning how to spell correctly helps to develop literacy skills in children by allowing them to use words correctly and express themselves in writing. By being able to spell words correctly, children are able to understand the meanings of words better and can also write more accurately.

Up to the end of Key Stage 1, our primary approach to spelling teaching is delivered through the [Little Wandle Phonics Scheme](#).

Sounds & Syllables is a primary spelling programme that teaches all children in a simple but logical way how English spelling actually works. It was designed with three simple principles in mind: that it would be universal, simple and logical. It works with spellers of all abilities, from those who might find spelling consistently a challenge to those who are confident, sophisticated spellers. Second, the Sounds & Syllables spelling approach helps children to spell any word in the English Language.

At the heart of Sounds & Syllables is a simple but powerful spelling sequence that is used with all children in KS2 to support spelling. This sequence is simple to learn and is used when teaching and practising spelling, but also when attempting spellings while writing. The Sounds & Syllables sequence consists of five simple steps: (1) say the word clearly; (2) snip the word into syllables; (3) say the sounds and write the spellings for each syllable in turn; (4) target and correct any misspellings; and (5) lock in those tricky spellings by linking them to similar spellings in known words.

The programme begins at the start of Key Stage 2. At Newsham we have a minimum of 4 Sounds & Syllables sessions per week and assess children's understanding of the spelling patterns taught through in class quizzes and half termly dictated paragraphs. We also monitor its impact through writing scrutiny and observation.

Find out more about the Sounds and Syllables scheme [here](#).