



Writing expectations

Year 3

Working towards the expected standard			
The pupil can:			
Write for a range of purposes			
Use mostly correctly:	• spacing between letters		
	• capital letters and full stops		
	• question marks when required		
	• exclamation marks		
Spell most words correctly (Year 1 & 2)			
Spell some words correctly (Year 3)			
Use the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join some letters			

Working at the expected standard			
The pupil can:			
Plan and write a narrative with a clear structure, setting, character and plot			
Write a non-narrative using simple organisational devices; for example, headings and sub-headings			
Use the articles a/an correctly			
Use a range of sentences with more than one clause to express time and cause by using a wider range of conjunctions; for example, when, if, because, although, before, after, while, so			
Use adverbs to express time and cause; for example, then, next, soon, therefore			
Use prepositions to express time and cause; for example, before, after, during, in			
Use the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to past tense			
Begin to use paragraphs			
Suggest improvements to writing through assessing writing with peers and self-assessment			
Make improvements by proposing changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve consistently; for example, the accurate use of pronouns in sentences			
Proof-read to check for errors in spelling and punctuation			
Use mostly correctly:	• commas to separate items in a list		
	• apostrophes for missing letters in words		
	• apostrophes to make singular possession		
Show some use of inverted commas to punctuate direct speech			
Spell words with prefixes, and understand how to add them to root words: in, dis, mis, de, re, pre			
Spell words with suffixes and understand how to add them to root words: ly, ation, tion, sure			
Recognise and spell additional homophones from the Y3 list			
Use the first two or three letters of a word to check its spelling in a dictionary			
Spell word families based on common words			
Spell Year 3 common exception words			



Writing expectations

Year 3

Working at the expected standard (continued)

The pupil can:

Make analogies from a word already known to apply to an unfamiliar word

Identify the root words

Understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined

Increase the legibility, consistency and quality of joined handwriting in some pieces

Working at greater depth

The pupil can:

Use adjectives and adverbs with confidence and attempt to think of different ones to use in different situations

Give careful thought to the planning of writing and re-read it as a matter of course

Ensure that descriptions have enough detail to help the reader gain better understanding about the way the events are unfolding

Use adventurous and effective vocabulary when describing events, characters or feelings

Use powerful verbs to show character or add impact

Vary sentences, adding phrases to make the meaning more precise

Use the appropriate features of a genre to suit the purpose of writing; for example, poems, letters, lists, reports

Use inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech (! ? ,)

Use capital letters for proper nouns

Spell all words in the Year 3 and some in the Y4 common exception word list accurately