

Year two – top tips for spelling.

Grapheme (letter/s) phoneme (sound)

correspondence.

/j/ phoneme (sound)

words never end with the letter 'j'

-dge – end of words after short vowel sounds *e.g. edge*

-ge – end of word after all other sounds

e.g. large

'g' – sometimes used elsewhere in words before 'e', 'i' and 'y'.

/s/ phoneme (sound)

C - before 'e', 'i' and 'y'

SS – words ending with the spelling 'ss' are mainly after a short vowel *e.g. loss (exceptions include bus, gas, has, his, is, plus, this, yes and was)*

ce – words ending with 'ce' are after a long vowel or letter 'n'
e.g. ace and chance

/n/ phoneme (sound)

kn - at the beginning of words *e.g. knit*

gn – at the beginning of words (less often) *e.g. gnaw*

/igh/ phoneme (sound)

y – end of short word or before 'ing'

i - ' in common exception words: *find, kind, behind*

/l/ phoneme (sound)

le – at the end of words – following a consonant

el – at the end of words

al – at the end of words

il – at the end of words (less often)

/ee/ phoneme (sound)

ey – end of some words

/r/ phoneme (sound)

wr – beginning of some words

/o/ phoneme (sound)

a – short 'o' sound that follows the letters 'qu' and 'w' is often spelt with a letter 'a' *e.g. squad and swap*

/zh/ phoneme (sound)

s – *e.g. treasure, usual*

/or/ phoneme (sound)

a – before 'l' and 'll' *e.g. call, walk, always*

ar – after 'w' *e.g. warm, towards*

/er/ phoneme (sound)

or – after 'w' *e.g. work, world*

/u/ phoneme (sound)

o – *e.g. mother and Monday*

Punctuation e.g. apostrophes and hyphens

Apostrophe for contractions – apostrophe goes in place of the missing letter/s *e.g. did not - didn't and I will – I'll*

Prefixes and suffixes

Adding endings 'ing-', 'ed', 'er', 'est', 'y', 'ment', 'ness', 'ful', 'less', 'ly', to words:

Year two – top tips for spelling.

- Choosing between the suffix 'ist' or 'est'. Choose the 'ist' suffix for nouns *e.g. artist*, and the 'est' suffix for adjectives *e.g. longest*
- The suffix is added on to most root words without changing them
- If the root word ends in a 'y', the 'y' changes to an 'i' except when adding 'ing'
e.g. carry – carried/carrying
- If the suffix starts with a vowel *e.g. 'ing' or 'ed'*, drop the 'e' at the end of the root word
e.g. care – caring
- If the suffix begins with a consonant, keep the 'e'
e.g. adding 'ly' to 'bare' – 'barely'
- If the root word has a short vowel sound followed by one consonant, double the consonant and add the suffix *e.g. bat - batting*

Adding the suffix 'tion'. Use 'tion' when the root word ends in a 't' or 'te'

e.g. act – action and educate - education

Homophones

'There', 'here' and 'where' are all related to place and have similar spelling (this can be used to help choose the correct spelling of a homophone *e.g. when choosing between there, their or they're*)