**Phonics, Spelling and Grammar (see also Spelling Policy):**

Year 1

During year 1, teachers 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.

Children are taught Phonics, Spelling and Grammar daily in 30 minute lessons.

At the end of year 1, children sit a Phonics Screening Test (National Requirement) in which they must recognise 32 sounds in reading, including both real and nonsense words.

Year 2

Children in year 2 are further supported in Phonics where gaps are identified from the Phonics Screening Test. This takes place 3 times a week for 30 minutes.

Spelling Years 2-6

Across these year groups, children are taught Spelling following the ‘*Read Write Inc Spelling’* program.

Children are taught in four 30 minute lessons where they are introduced to a new spelling pattern fortnightly.

In addition to the spelling pattern taught following the National Curriculum requirements, children are taught the common exception words for their year group.

Spellings are taught through a range of strategies: identifying the word in reading; highlighting the number of sounds in the word and the letters used to make them; identifying the root word and how the word changes with the spelling pattern; dictation; peer and independent work; self-evaluation; rehearsal and handwriting. Each pupil has a Practise Book to work in during school to complete activities.

Two sets of spellings are displayed in each classroom; the current spelling pattern words and Special Focus words (common exception words) so children can look at and practise at unstructured times of the day.

These words are assessed at the end of every unit and errors are recorded in pupil Home Spelling Books\* which are a way of communicating spelling learning between home and school. At the end of each half term, children are given a test of 20 words (which is representative of the National Spelling Test) to assess the words learnt to-date. Errors are recorded and monitored by the teacher, and school, to put interventions in place. The children are tested at the end of the year in the same style on all of the words learnt across the year.

Not only is Spelling taught as a stand-alone lesson but it is encouraged to be integrated into all curricular areas and children identify their spelling words in reading and writing across a range of media, genres and contexts.

\* We encourage parents/guardians to look at Home Spelling Books to monitor children’s progress and support children at home. We have placed a copy of the year’s spelling lists inside.

Grammar Years 2-6

Following the National Curriculum requirements for each year group, children are taught grammar within Literacy lessons usually in context with their current learning/genre/texts – some stand-alone lessons/skills may be taught.

At the end of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (years 2 and 6), children are formally tested; in May, the children perform SATs in Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation.

*This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on a yearly basis.*

This policy was reviewed and updated: July 2017 by J.McCormick.