



Barnfields Primary School  
Writing Skills Progression Yr1 - Yr6

**Writing: Sentence Structure/Grammar and Punctuation**

<b>Yr1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Write simple sentences.</li><li>• Sentence structures often draw more on characteristics of spoken language than those of written language, with repetition of pronouns and simple verbs.</li><li>• To write simple compound sentences using 'and'.</li><li>• Words are separated with spaces independently.</li><li>• To correctly use capital letters and full stops to demarcate some sentences.</li><li>• To begin to use question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences.</li><li>• To consistently use capital letters for the personal pronoun 'I' and begin to use capital letters for some proper nouns (e.g. days of the week, other names).</li></ul>
<b>Yr2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uses correctly structured simple and compound sentences.</li><li>• Growing variety of simple conjunctions being used: subordination (when, if, that, because) and coordination (or, and, but).</li><li>• Uses a variety of sentence openings.</li><li>• Mostly consistent use of the tense that is appropriate to the task.</li><li>• Grammatical pattern of sentence matches its purpose (statement, question, exclamation or command).</li><li>• Correct use of progressive form of verbs in present and past tense to mark actions (e.g. she is drumming, he was shouting).</li><li>• Mostly uses capital letters and full stops to demarcate sentences.</li><li>• To use question marks and exclamation marks, realising their effect on the reader.</li><li>• To consistently use capital letters for the personal pronoun 'I' and usually uses capital letters for other proper nouns (e.g. days of the week, months, names, place names).</li><li>• Use commas to separate an item in a list.</li><li>• Uses apostrophes to mark where letters are missing (omission) – simple common contractions.</li><li>• Starting to use apostrophes to mark singular possession in nouns.</li></ul>
<b>Yr3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uses simple and compound sentences that are grammatically correct and punctuated correctly.</li><li>• Sentences with more than one clause are increasingly evident however these may remain uncontrolled.</li><li>• Uses an increasing variety of sentence openings.</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Express time, place and cause using conjunctions (e.g. when, before, after, while, so, because), adverbs (e.g. then, next, soon, therefore), or prepositions (e.g. before after, during, in, because of).</li><li>• First and third person tense are used consistently.</li><li>• Present and past tense, including the progressive form, usually correctly and consistently applied throughout writing.</li><li>• Mostly uses the forms 'a' or 'an' according to whether the next word begins with consonant or vowel.</li><li>• Punctuation to mark sentences (full stops, capital letters, exclamation and question marks) is usually used accurately.</li><li>• Capital letters used accurately for proper nouns.</li><li>• Apostrophe use increasingly accurate.</li><li>• Usually using inverted commas to punctuate direct speech.</li><li>• Starts to show awareness of commas to mark phrases and clauses, as well as separating items in lists.</li></ul>
<b>Yr4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uses a wider mixture of grammatically accurate simple and compound sentences, extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions including when, if, because, although.</li><li>• Uses of a wide and varied range of sentence openings.</li><li>• Noun phrases extended by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns, prepositions, phrases (e.g. the teacher expanded to: the strict maths teacher with curly hair).</li><li>• Choice of tense is accurate and consistent.</li><li>• Appropriate use of pronouns to avoid repetition.</li><li>• Use of fronted adverbials (e.g. later that day, I heard the bad news).</li><li>• Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition.</li><li>• Basic grammar is accurate reflecting written standard English instead of local spoken forms (e.g. should have, would have).</li><li>• Capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks are used accurately.</li><li>• Commas used after fronted adverbials.</li><li>• Inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech (e.g. a comma after reporting a clause, end punctuation within inverted commas).</li><li>• Apostrophes to mark singular and plural possession.</li></ul>
<b>Yr5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A mixture of simple, compound and complex sentences is used to extend meaning and add variety and interest, taking into account audience and purpose for writing.</li><li>• Expanded phrases and clauses are used to add information or detail.</li><li>• Appropriate use of direct and reported speech.</li><li>• Tense changes are appropriate and consistently accurate.</li><li>• Beginning to use of relative clauses beginning with <i>who, which, where, when whose, that</i> or omitted relative pronoun.</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beginning to indicate degrees of possibility using adverbs (e.g. perhaps, surely) or modal verbs (e.g. might, should, will must).</li><li>• Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity (e.g. Let's eat grandma. Let's eat, grandma).</li><li>• Inverted commas are used to demarcate direct speech, with new lines used for each new speaker.</li><li>• Some use of brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis.</li></ul>
Yr6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A secure and controlled use of simple, compound and complex sentences; choices are made to reflect formal and informal situations.</li><li>• Control of complex sentences usually shows understanding of manipulation of clauses for different effects.</li><li>• Relative clauses using a wide range of relative pronouns (or an implied relative pronoun) to clarify and explain relationships between ideas.</li><li>• Range of verbs forms (e.g. conditional and passive) used, mostly accurately.</li><li>• Use of passive to affect the presentation of information in a sentence.</li><li>• Appropriate choice of tense to support whole text cohesion.</li><li>• Modal verbs and adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility, probability and certainty.</li><li>• Consistent, accurate use of commas within sentences to separate items in a list, phrases and clauses.</li><li>• Range of punctuation is mostly accurately used.</li></ul>

**Writing: Text Structure and Organisation, Drafting and Editing, Effective use of Language/ Vocabulary  
(including awareness of reader)**

Yr1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sentences are planned orally before they are written.</li><li>• Sequenced sentences are starting to be formed based on fictional and real experiences; this may include some characteristics of narrative writing but the form may not be sustained.</li><li>• Children's writing may begin to show some features of different text types, as demonstrated through their own reading and teacher modelling (e.g. list, caption or simple instructions).</li><li>• Checks that their writing makes sense by re-reading and makes simple changes where suggested.</li><li>• Uses vocabulary that is appropriate to the subject matter.</li><li>• Some use of adjectives for description.</li><li>• Writing refers to the context of task.</li></ul>
Yr2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Narrative features are beginning to be developed in a chronological order.</li><li>• Writes simple narratives about personal experiences and those of others, writes about real events, and writes simple poems.</li><li>• Some characteristic features of a chosen form are beginning to be developed (e.g. in narrative a sequence of events, in non-narrative sections of writing sequenced appropriately).</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Simple additions, revisions and corrections to their own writing include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Rereading to check for sense</li><li>➤ Proof reading for errors</li></ul></li><li>• Uses grammatical vocabulary from Appendix 2 when discussing work (year 1 and year 2).</li><li>• Uses adjectives, adverbs and expanded noun phrases to describe and specify.</li><li>• Uses some specific vocabulary linked to the topic in non-narrative writing.</li></ul>
Yr3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plans using ideas gathered from wider reading and modelling.</li><li>• Writing demonstrates an understanding of purpose and audience.</li><li>• Main features of story structure are present – beginning, middle and clearly developed resolution.</li><li>• Usually groups similar information together (starting to use paragraphs for all forms of writing).</li><li>• Simple overall structure of the chosen non-narrative text type is usually used appropriately.</li><li>• In non-narratives, simple organisational devices (including headings and sub-headings) aid presentations.</li><li>• Able to proof read to check for errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation with increasing accuracy.</li><li>• Can make simple improvements to content either within their own and others' writing.</li><li>• Deliberate uses of adventurous word choices to add detail and engage the reader e.g. (adding adverbs to add detail to verbs, using technical language appropriate to the text type).</li></ul>
Yr4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The ending is developed and is of an appropriate length.</li><li>• Uses paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme.</li><li>• Consistent and appropriate use of the structure of the chosen non- narrative text type.</li><li>• In non-narrative texts, text structure includes introduction, ordered sections and a brief conclusion, as well as other organisational devices.</li><li>• Can independently proof read and amend their own writing, checking for accuracy of grammar, vocabulary and use of pronouns throughout the text: e.g. spotting repetitious language, verb/subject disagreement or lapses in tense.</li><li>• Noun phrases, adverbs and adjectives are used to create variety and add interest.</li><li>• Adjectives are sometimes modified for emphasis.</li><li>• Beginning to use a wider range of powerful verbs.</li><li>• Attempts to use technical and precise vocabulary in non-narrative writing.</li><li>• Writer's viewpoint is established, but may not be maintained.</li></ul>
Yr5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chooses structure and organisation of text depending on audience and purpose.</li><li>• Story structure is well developed, using paragraphs to mark changes of time, scene, action or person.</li><li>• Within paragraphs, sequences of events are developed around a main sentence.</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Characters develop through descriptions of appearance, actions and direct or reported speech.</li><li>• Use of fronted adverbials of time, place and number to link ideas across paragraphs.</li><li>• Tense choice and other devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs.</li><li>• Writing shows consistently effective use of the structure of the chosen non-narrative text type.</li><li>• A widening range of layout conventions and presentational devices are used to indicate main and supporting points. Ideas are linked across paragraphs.</li><li>• Can usually propose appropriate changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation to clarify meaning in their own and others' writing.</li><li>• Nouns and noun phrases are modified by preposition phrases to expand and develop ideas, information and description.</li><li>• Narrator's or character viewpoint is established and controlled.</li><li>• Writing shows mostly appropriate adaptation of features of chosen form to meet the purpose of the task or for a specific audience.</li><li>• Effective use of technical and precise vocabulary for effect (e.g. to inform, persuade, explain).</li><li>• Writer's viewpoint is established and controlled (e.g. a consistent perspective is evident throughout the piece).</li></ul>
Yr6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Writing for a range of purposes and audiences demonstrates selection and use of suitable forms.</li><li>• Paragraphs are used to develop and expand some ideas, descriptions, themes and events in depth.</li><li>• Relationships between paragraphs usually gives clear structure and coherence to the whole story.</li><li>• Elements of dialogue, action and description are interwoven appropriately.</li><li>• A range of organisational and presentational devices, including use of columns, bullet points and tables, are used to guide the reader.</li><li>• A range of cohesive devices to link ideas within and across paragraphs (including repetition of a word or phrase; grammatical connections, such as adverbials; and ellipsis) are used.</li><li>• Controlled use of structure across the whole piece which maintains and emphasises the context and purpose of writing.</li><li>• In non-narrative writing, within sections /paragraphs ideas are clearly developed or explained, including relevant detail.</li><li>• Ideas are mostly organised into appropriately sequenced sections or paragraphs, contributing to the overall effectiveness and shape of the text.</li><li>• Effect of own writing is evaluated. Editing ensures that appropriate changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation (including use of tense, subject/verb agreement and register) is used to enhance effects and clarify meaning.</li><li>• Vocabulary choices are imaginative and words are used precisely and appropriately to create impact and augment meaning.</li><li>• Makes appropriate choices between colloquial language and standard English (match formal and informal situations).</li><li>• In narrative descriptions of settings, characters are used appropriately, including integration of dialogue to convey character and advance the action.</li><li>• Effective use of well-chosen phrases (e.g. adverbials, expanded noun phrases) are used to engage reader and for clarity of meaning.</li><li>• Expanded noun phrases are used to convey complicated information concisely.</li></ul>



- Uses a wider range of narrative techniques to engage the reader (e.g. use of flashback and time-shift).
- Viewpoint is well controlled and convincing.

### Writing: Spelling and Handwriting

<b>Yr1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most words containing previously taught phonemes, GPCs, common exception words are spelt accurately. There is an increasingly accurate use of the prefix un- and suffixes when adding – ing, -ed, -er and –est to the spelling of the root word (see National Curriculum Appendix 1).</li><li>• Begins to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting at and finishing in the right place (may be inconsistencies in orientation and size).</li><li>• Holds a pencil comfortably and correctly</li><li>• Forms capital letters and digits 0-9</li><li>• Understands which letters belong to the handwriting 'families' and is able to practise these.</li></ul>
<b>Yr2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spelling rules and guidance from Appendix 1 (Year 2) are usually applied accurately.</li><li>• Holds a pencil comfortably and correctly.</li><li>• Forms lower case letters of the correct size relative to one another.</li><li>• Starts to use some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters.</li><li>• Write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower-case letters.</li><li>• Upper and lower case letters not mixed within words.</li></ul>
<b>Yr3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some spelling rules and guidance from English Appendix 1 (Year3 and 4) applied accurately, including further homophones and possessive apostrophe.</li><li>• Uses the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined.</li><li>• The children should be using a joined style of handwriting.</li></ul>
<b>Yr4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spelling rules and guidance from English Appendix 1 (year 3 and 4) applied.</li></ul>
<b>Yr5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Taught spelling rules and guidance from English Appendix 1 (year 5 and 6) applied.</li></ul>
<b>Yr6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Morphological and etymological knowledge, and the full range of spelling rules and patterns, are listed in Appendix 1 year 5 and year 6) are applied accurately.</li></ul>



**Barnfields Primary School**  
*'Believe & Achieve'*



- Legible, fluent handwriting is usually maintained when writing at efficient speed. This includes appropriate choice of letter shape; whether or not to join letters; and writing implement