



At Stephen Freeman School, we follow 'The Spelling Book: Transforming the Teaching of Spelling, Jane Considine' approach to teach children in Years 2 – 6. The spellings are all in line with the National Curriculum.

Spellings are certainly tricky and the English language contains well over a million words and has been affected by some 1,300 years of history. As the National Curriculum reminds us, "Most people read words more accurately than they spell them." With this in mind, we have introduced a clear and systematic view for teaching spellings that will provide our children with life-long strategies. Spellings need to be taught logically to see the magic of words, the patterns and how words can help transform their quality of writing.

The underlying structure of the approach is based on the three zones of spelling: exploring patterns, remembering and recall of spellings.

Organisation of spellings

During **week one**, a block of 50 minutes is created to facilitate an investigation and ways of writing the phonic sounds using a letter/letters known as graphemes. The nature of this is a 'slow' look at patterns and working to improve or disprove a hypothesis.

During **week two**, the same amount of time is split into 5 x 10 minute slots to experience pace and take a quicker look at spellings involving analysis of common errors, why these errors occur and what to do to ensure that the correct spelling embeds in their long-term memory – this approach will ensure all pupils from Year 2-Year 4 will have a systematic approach to spellings (Reception – Year 1 children will have daily phonics as before).

We encourage parents to support children at home to learn the spellings and patterns. However, children will not be tested on their spellings.

Each child has focus spellings – these will remain a focus until corrected in their real independent writing. Words can be changed as the children require them, and show they can use them accurately:

Further information about The Spelling Book can be found by clicking the following links:

<https://www.janeconsidine.com/the-spelling-book-training>

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2021/jul/03/jane-considine-spelling-test-reading-primary-school>

