# Spelling Policy

We have high expectations in writing and believe that good spelling underpins a child's enjoyment, confidence and accuracy in writing. When a child lacks confidence and fluency in spelling it can form a barrier when writing across the curriculum. It can also impact on self-confidence and can limit outcomes in writing at the end of KS2. Spelling is an essential skill which allows children to clearly communicate their understanding in writing.

At Mulberry we believe that all our children can become fluent, confident and competent spellers. We encourage our pupils to think and write creatively, be adventurous with their use of language and to write with clear purpose and for pleasure. In order to achieve these aims, it is essential that our pupils develop the knowledge and skills required to spell accurately. We want our pupils to be equipped with both the understanding and a range of strategies for learning spelling, and to be able to apply these strategies effectively when spelling words in their writing.

To ensure this happens, we use the Ready Steady Spell resource. This is a systematic spelling programme that covers all National Curriculum objectives in a cyclical and structured way.

The progression document systematically develops children's understanding of morphological and phonological spelling knowledge and rules, as appropriate to their stage of learning. It builds on prior knowledge in an incremental and structured manner as pupils move through the school. Children are also taught a range of engaging and interactive strategies to support the recall of spellings and to help embed them into their long-term working memory.

**Lessons**

- Spelling is taught daily in Year 2 and three times a week in Year 3 to Year 6, for 20 mins. We begin this the first week of term.
- The programme includes a review session every Friday, alongside ongoing formative assessment and dedicated assessment weeks, enabling us to monitor the progress our children are making and identify any additional teaching needed to support their early success.
- The daily sessions include a clear 4-part lesson, Revisit/Revise, Teach, Practise and Apply and cover CEW's, strategies to support remembering the spellings, teaching of rules where appropriate and application into writing.
- We follow the **Ready Steady Spell** progression document through Year 2 which covers all the National Curriculum (2014) expectations and clearly sets out what is to be taught and when.
- The objectives are returned to within and across year group three times to ensure that spellings are embedded.
- We have a weekly spelling test. This is in addition to the lesson. The spellings are set out within the programme and are based upon what has already been taught and CEW's for the week.
- We send home parent sheets weekly which provide the words for the spelling tests and the strategies that have been suggested to support their learning.