

Useful websites/apps :

For developing typing skills :

- BBC : <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr>
- Doorwayonline : <https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/typing/>

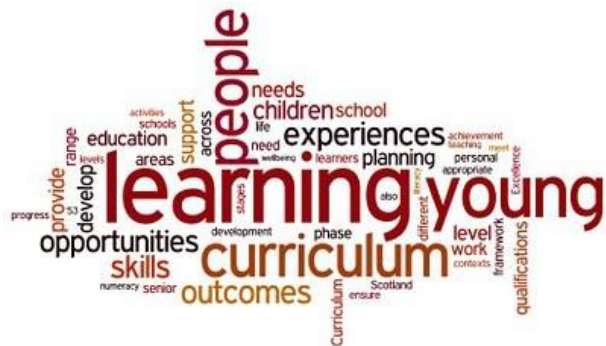
For spelling practice :

- Doorwayonline : <https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/literacy/speller/>
- Literacy Planet : <https://www.literacyplanet.com/uk/>
- Education City : <https://www.educationcity.com/>
- Studyladder : <https://www.studyladder.co.uk/>

Specialist Support Team

Cambuslang/Rutherglen Education Area
Room 9
Burgh Business Centre
75 King Street
Rutherglen G73 1JS

Tele : 0141 613 5296



Education Resources

Cambuslang/Rutherglen Education Area

Specialist Support Service

Spelling P4-P7

Advice for Parents/Carers

Supporting SLC's Frameworks for
ASN of Children and Young People and Inclusion :
Staged Intervention -
Supports/Strategies Checklist

How can I best support my child?

When your child does some writing at home, do not be too critical of spelling mistakes. Children can easily be discouraged and if they become reluctant to try to spell words they will only write words they can already spell. Trial and error is an important part of becoming a good speller. Always praise your child for 'having a go'. Remember that everyone can improve their spelling but it takes time and effort from the child and praise and encouragement from parents.

When your child comes home with a list of words you can discuss the sound/phoneme used. You can discuss with them what strategy they use to help them remember to spell each word. Spelling and phonics are taught together in school so your child has had lots of practise using a variety of spelling strategies.

Making spelling practise feel fun is important – it shouldn't feel like extra homework and a 'little and often' approach works well.

Spelling strategies :

Discuss with your child what works best for them.

- **Look for the hard bit** : Read the spellings together and comment on any interesting features eg 'These three words all have 'ould' in them'. Or point out 'tricky' bits in words, eg '*beautiful*' – it sounds like 'full' at the end but it's only got one 'l'.
- **Look for a pattern** : Look at your word. If you know how to spell 'mill, will, fill', etc. Can you think of other words that are spelled in the same way?
- **Visualise the word** : Look at the letter shape, size, ascending and descending letters. Then have your child close their eyes and 'see' or 'picture' the word in their mind and have a go at saying the letters. Your child can then open their eyes and write the word from memory, saying each sound as they write.
- **Use phoneme knowledge** (sounding out)
- **Compound words/Words within words** : Breaking the compound word into simple words ('into' has 'in' and 'to')
- **Mnemonic** ('because' – **B**ig **E**lephants **C**an **A**dd **U**p **S**ums **E**asily)

What games can we play?

- Play **word games** together eg in the car or bus look at car registration plates and challenge one another to think of words that use the letters in the same sequence. For example, RTM = retirement.
- Play **Hangman**. You have ten turns to guess a word. Indicate how many letters are in the word and give the first letter, eg s_ _ _ _ _ . Your child must guess what letter comes after 's'.

If they guess correctly, they must guess the third letter. If they think they recognise the word, they can guess the whole word.

Multi-sensory strategies :

- **Back writing** : Your child writes a word on your back, slowly, and you see if you can guess what it is. Then you do the same, taking turns.
- **Scrambled word** : Have your child practice making their word with magnetic letters. Then ask them to close their eyes while you jumble up the letters. Your child then opens their eyes and tries to re-arrange them to spell the word correctly.
- **Sand tray/lentil tray** : Write the word in sand, lentils or whatever you have at home. Focus on the shape of each letter. Then, try to make the word again with your eyes closed.
- **Rainbow words** : Write out your spelling words using coloured pens or pencils – use as many colours as you can in each word.
- **Pyramid / triangle writing** :
n
ni
nic
nice
- **Write out your spelling words** : Your child can use bubble writing or all capital letters.
- **Look, say, cover, write, check** : Have your child look at the word, say it out loud, cover the word up then write it.

Using the computer/ICT :

- **Use the computer to practise your spelling words** : Type your spelling words 3 times each. Try adding colour/changing the font. Print them off and show your Teacher.
- **Practise your spelling words using an app or website** (see next page).
- It is also important for pupils to develop their IT skills to help support them with spelling/writing. ICT offers an effective, widely available and affordable means of supporting pupils (eg spell check function on Microsoft Word, word suggestions and assistive technology).
- Encouraging children to learn how to touch type can enhance their ability to use ICT. Typing can be used in conjunction with the spell check function available in word processing packages. These can be accessed by all pupils with an internet connection for free through Glow.

