



Spelling at Chilham St Mary's

Intent:

At Chilham St Mary's, we aim to cultivate in every individual a love of language and the confidence to experiment creatively with words. We encourage pupils to write with purpose, imagination, and adventurousness, and we recognise that achieving these aims relies on a secure foundation in accurate spelling.

Through phonics and a spelling rule approach, our intention is to equip children with a diverse range of strategies for learning spelling. These strategies are applied both within structured activities and in independent writing, fostering firm foundations in literacy and supporting pupils in reaching their full potential. Spelling knowledge underpins writing across the curriculum and contributes to children's ability to engage with the wider world through confident, clear communication.

Implementation:

In EYFS and KS1, pupils develop spelling through our phonics scheme, Little Wandle, Letters and Sounds Revised. Daily phonics lessons, supplemented by targeted interventions when required, ensure that every individual can progress according to their needs.

Children in KS2 who require additional support in phonics benefit from targeted interventions, delivered regularly to consolidate understanding and confidence.

In KS2, new spellings are introduced weekly, with opportunities to revisit and practise collaboratively and independently through a variety of spelling activities. Children are also encouraged to continue their learning at home, supported by the Twinkl Spelling App, reinforcing their skills and promoting independent learning. Across the school, pupils are encouraged to take risks in their use of language, experimenting with new words and spelling patterns to enhance their writing.

Impact:

Through our structured and inclusive approach to spelling, pupils at Chilham St Mary's:

- Acquire the knowledge and skills to apply spelling, grammar, and punctuation across a diverse range of purposes and cross-curricular contexts.
- Develop the confidence to write creatively, be adventurous with language, and communicate with clarity and purpose.
- Apply phonetic skills effectively, blending phonemes for reading and segmenting phonemes for spelling.
- Develop a growing vocabulary, demonstrating interest in word meanings and origins, enhancing both speaking and writing.
- Write with confidence and creativity, while developing the ability to self-edit, correct, and improve independently.
- Are encouraged to be imaginative, take risks, and challenge themselves, fostering lifelong enquiry and collaborative learning.

The impact of our spelling curriculum is evaluated through:

- EYFS and KS1 phonics outcomes
- Weekly spelling assessments
- KS2 SATs spelling performance
- Monitoring of spelling across all subjects and written work

Through this approach, pupils leave Chilham St Mary's with firm foundations in spelling, prepared to express themselves confidently, reach their full potential, and engage with the wider world as articulate and imaginative communicators.