## Unlocking

Unlocking Letters and Sounds Progression

The progression used in Unlocking Letters and Sounds largely follows the progression contained in Letters and Sounds 2007, with some modifications based upon:

- a decade of experience of teaching using Letters and Sounds in schools
- feedback from schools who have been trialling the Unlocking Letters and Sounds programme
- refinements and clarifications of learning elements omitted from Letters and Sounds
- updated guidance, including requirements from the National Curriculum
 and for spelling development. The phases are organised as follows:
- Phase 2
- Phase 4 Mastery
- Phase 5b)
- Phase 3
- Phase 4 Revision (including NC Y1 requirements)
- Phase 5a)
- Phase 3 Mastery
- Phase 5a) Mastery (including NC Y1 requirements)
- Phase 5c)
- Phase 5a) Spellings recap and 5b) Mastery
- Phase 5c) Mastery

| Year group | Week <br> (Phase) | Phase | GPCs taught | CEW taught |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Preschool |  | One | Sound discrimination, phonological awareness, rhyme, oral blending and segmenting |  |
| Reception <br> Autumn Term 1 | 1 | Two | satp |  |
| Reception Autumn Term 1 | 2 | Two | i n m d |  |
| Reception Autumn Term 1 | 3 | Two | gock | Read: the |
| Reception Autumn Term 1 | 4 | Two | ck eur | Read: to, into |
| Reception Autumn Term 1 | 5 | Two | h b fff | Read: no, I |


| Reception <br> Autumn Term 1 | 6 | Two | I II ss <br> Read words with -s ending | Read: go |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reception <br> Autumn Term 2 | 1 | Three | j v w $\mathbf{x}$ | Read: me |
| Reception <br> Autumn Term 2 | 2 | Three | $y z z z q u$ | Read: we, be Write: the, into, go, to |
| Reception Autumn Term 2 | 3 | Three | ch sh th (voiced and unvoiced) $\mathbf{n g}$ | Read: he, she |
| Reception Autumn Term 2 | 4 | Three | ai ee igh oa | Read: was, you Write: I, no |
| Reception <br> Autumn Term 2 | 5 | Three | OO ar or ur | Read: they, all |
| Reception <br> Autumn Term 2 | 6 | Three | Read words containing -ing endings with no change to the root word Assess and review Phase 3 work Weeks 1-5 |  |
| Reception Spring Term 1 | 7 | Three | ow oi ear air | Read: are, my |
| Reception Spring Term 1 | 8 | Three | ure er <br> Reading and spelling words containing digraphs and trigraphs | Read: her |
| Reception Spring Term 1 | 9 | Three | Assess and review Phase 3 work |  |
| Reception Spring Term 1 | 1 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: j v w x, me | Revisit: me |
| Reception Spring Term 1 | 2 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: y z zz qu, we, be | Revisit: we, be |
| Reception Spring Term 1 | 3 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: ch sh th ng, he, she | Revisit: he, she |
| Reception Spring Term 2 | 4 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: ai ee igh oa, was, you | Revisit: was, you |


| Reception Spring Term 2 | 5 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: oo ar or ur they, all | Revisit: they, all |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reception Spring Term 2 | 6 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: ow oi ear air, are, my | Revisit: are, my |
| Reception Spring Term 2 | 7 | Three (Mastery) | Revisit GPCs and CEW: ure er, her | Revisit: her |
| Reception Spring Term 2 | 8 | Three (Mastery) | Assess and review Phase 3 work |  |
| Reception Spring Term 2 | 9 | Three (Mastery) | Assess and review Phase 3 work |  |
| Reception Summer Term 1 | 1 | Four | CVCC and CCVC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that contain graphemes taught in Phase 2 | Read: said, have Write: he, she, we, me, be |
| Reception Summer Term 1 | 2 | Four | CVCC and CCVC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that contain graphemes taught in Phase 2 | Read: like, so, do Write: was, you |
| Reception Summer Term 1 | 3 | Four | CVCC and CCVC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that contain graphemes taught in Phase 2 | Read: some, come Write: they, all, are |
| Reception Summer Term 1 | 4 | Four | CVCC and CCVC words: <br> teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that contain graphemes taught in Phase 2 | Read: were, there Write: my, her |
| Reception Summer Term 1 | 5 | Four | CVCC and CCVC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that contain graphemes taught in Phase 2 <br> Read words containing -ed endings with no change to the root word | Read: little, one |
| Reception Summer Term 1 | 6 | Four | CVCC and CCVC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that contain graphemes taught in Phase 2 <br> Read words containing -ing endings with no change to the root word | Read: when, out, what |
| Reception Summer Term 2 | 1 | Four (Mastery) | CVCC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that containing graphemes taught in Phase 3 | Revisit: said, have |
| Reception Summer Term 2 | 2 | Four (Mastery) | CCVC words: teach blending of words with adjacent consonants that containing graphemes taught in Phase 3 | Revisit: like, so, do |
| Reception Summer Term 2 | 3 | Four (Mastery) | Teach blending of polysyllabic CVCC and CCVC words | Revisit: some, come |


| Reception <br> Summer Term 2 | 4 | Four <br> (Mastery) | Teach blending of CCVCC words |  |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Reception <br> Summer Term 2 | 5 | Four <br> (Mastery) | Teach blending of CCVCC and polysyllabic CCVCC words |  |
| Reception <br> Summer Term 2 | 6 | Four <br> (Mastery) | Teach blending of CCCVCC words |  |
| Year 1 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 1 | Four <br> (Revision plus Y1 <br> NC requirements) | Revise Phase 4. <br> Teach adding -s and -es as a plural marker for nouns <br> Teach adding -s and -es as a third person singular marker for verbs <br> Revisit blending of words where -s and -es are added |  |
| Year 1 | Autumn Term 1 | 2 | Four <br> (Revision plus Y1 <br> NC requirements) | Revise Phase 4. <br> Teach adding the suffix -ing to verbs |
| Year 1 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 3 | Four <br> (Revision plus Y1 <br> NC requirements) | Revise Phase 4. <br> Teach adding the suffix -ed to verbs <br> Teach adding the suffix -er to verbs to change them to a noun <br> Revisit adding the suffixes -ed and -er to verbs |  |
| Year 1 | 4 | Four <br> (Revision plus Y1 <br> NC requirements) | Revise Phase 4. <br> Teach adding the suffix -er to adjectives <br> Teach adding the suffix -est |  |
| Year 1 Term 1 | 5 | Four <br> (Revision plus Y1 <br> NC requirements) | Revise Phase 4. <br> Teach adding the prefix un- to verbs <br> Teach adding the prefix un- to adjectives |  |
| Autumn Term 1 | 6 | Four <br> (Revision plus Y1 <br> NC requirements) | Revise Phase 4. <br> Teach reading words with contractions |  |
| Year 1 | Autumn Term 1 | Five a) | Teach new graphemes for reading: ay ou ie ea <br> Teach the days of the week |  |
| Year 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Autumn Term 2 | Five a) | Teach new graphemes for reading: oy ir ue (as in glue) ue (as in cue) |  |  |
| Year 1 |  |  |  |  |
| Autumn Term 2 | 2 | Read: oh, their |  |  |

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| Year 1 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 3 | Five a) | Teach new graphemes for reading: aw wh ph ew (as in blew) | Read: Mr, Mrs Write: have |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 4 | Five a) | Teach new graphemes for reading: ew (as in few) oe au ey Teach new phoneme /zh/ | Read: looked, called Write: like |
| Year 1 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 5 | Five a) | Teach new graphemes for reading: a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e | Revisit (read): called <br> Write: some, come |
| Year 1 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 6 | Five a) | Teach new graphemes for reading: u-e (as in flute) u-e (as in cube) | Read: asked Write: were, there |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 1 | 1 | Five a) (Mastery plus Y1 NC requirements) | Revise new graphemes for reading: ay ou ie ea Revise the days of the week <br> Teach correct use of -nk (NC) | Revisit (read): oh, their |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 1 | 2 | Five a) (Mastery plus Y1 NC requirements) | Revise new graphemes for reading: oy ir ue (as in glue) ue (as in cue) Teach correct use of ph (NC) | Revisit (read): people Revisit (write): said, so |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 1 | 3 | Five a) (Mastery plus Y1 NC requirements) | Revise new graphemes for reading: aw wh ph ew (as in blew) Teach correct use of -wh (NC) | Revisit (read): Mr, Mrs Revisit (write): have |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 1 | 4 | Five a) <br> (Mastery plus Y1 NC requirements) | Revise new graphemes for reading: ew (as in few) oe au ey Teach correct use of -tch (NC) | Revisit (read): looked, called <br> Revisit (write): like |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 1 | 5 | Five a) (Mastery plus Y1 NC requirements) | Revise new graphemes for reading: a-e e-e i-e o-e Teach correct use of -ve (NC) | Revisit (read): called Revisit (write): some, come |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 1 | 6 | Five a) (Mastery plus Y1 NC requirements) | Revise new graphemes for reading: u-e (as in flute) u-e (as in cube) Revise all Phase 5a) <br> Assess and review correct use of NC letters/suffixes | Revisit (read): asked Revisit (write): were, there |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 2 | 1 | Five b) | Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: a (as in acorn), a (as in fast), a (as in was), $\mathbf{e}$ (as in he) <br> Teach reading the common exception words water, where, who, again | Read: water, where, who, again Write: little, one |


| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 2 | 2 | Five b) | Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: $\mathbf{i}$ (as in mind), $\mathbf{o}$ (as in no), $\mathbf{u}$ (as in unit), u (as in put) <br> Teach reading the common exception words thought, through, mouse, work | Read: thought, through, mouse, work Write: do |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 Spring Term 2 | 3 | Five b) | Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: ow (as in snow), ie (as in chief), ea (as in head), er (as in her) <br> Teach reading the common exception words many, laughed, because | Read: many, laughed, because <br> Write: when, what |
| Year 1 Spring Term 2 | 4 | Five b) | Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: ou (as in you), ou (as in could), ou (as in mould), $\mathbf{y}$ (as in by), $\mathbf{y}$ (as in gym) <br> Teach reading the common exception words different, any, eyes | Read: different, any, eyes <br> Write: out |
| Year 1 Spring Term 2 | 5 | Five b) | Teach alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: $\mathbf{y}$ (as in very), ch (as in school), ch (as in chef), $\mathbf{c}$ (as in cell), $\mathbf{g}$ (as in gent), ey (as in they) <br> Teach reading the common exception words friends, once, please | Read: friends, once, please |
| Year 1 <br> Spring Term 2 | 6 | Five b) | Assess and review alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading Assess and review reading new common exception words and correct use of NC endings |  |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 1 | 1 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /ch/ (as in picture), /ch/ (as in catch), /j/ (as in fudge), /m/ (as in lamb) | Write: oh |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 1 | 2 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /n/ (as in gnat), /n/ (as in knit), /r/ (as in wrap), /s/ (as in listen) | Write: their |
| Year 1 Summer Term 1 | 3 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /s/ (as in house), /z/ (as in please), /u/ (as in some), /i/ (as in happy) |  |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 1 | 4 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /i/ (as in donkey), /ear/ (as in here), /ear/ (as in beer), /ar/ (as in father) | Write: people |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 1 | 5 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /ar/ (as in half), /air/ (as in there), /air/ (as in pear), /air/ (as in bare), /or/ (as in all) | Write: Mr, Mrs |
| Year 1 Summer Term 1 | 6 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /or/ (as in four), /or/ (as in caught), /ur/ (as in learn), /ur/ (as in word) | Write: looked |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 2 | 7 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /oo/ (as in could), /oo/ (as in put), /ai/ (as in day), /ai/ (as in came), /ee/ (as in sea) |  |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 2 | 8 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /ee/ (as in these), /ee/ (as in happy), /ee/ (as in chief), /ee/ (as in key) | Write: called, asked |

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| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 2 | 9 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /igh/ (as in pie), /igh/ (as in by), /igh/ (as in like), /oa/ (as in low) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 2 | 10 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /oa/ (as in toe), /oa/ (as in bone), /(y)oo/ (as in cue), /(y)oo/ (as in tune) |  |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 2 | 11 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /(y)oo/ (as in stew), /oo/ (as in clue), /oo/ (as in June), /ool (as in blew) |  |
| Year 1 <br> Summer Term 2 | 12 | Five c) | Teach alternative spellings of phonemes: /sh/ (as in special), /sh/ (as in station), /sh/ (as in sugar), /sh/ (as in chef) |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 1 | Five a) (Spellings recap) | Spellings: choosing from alternative graphemes with the same sound: oi/oy, ow/ou, ur/er/ir, or/aw/au, ai/ay/a-e <br> Revise reading all common exception words |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 2 | Five a) (Spellings recap) | Spellings: choosing from alternative graphemes with the same sound: ee/ea/e-e/ey, igh/ie/i-e, oa/oe/o-e, oo/ew/ue/u-e (oo), ew/ue/u-e (you) <br> Revise reading all common exception words |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 1 | Five b) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: a (as in acorn), a (as in fast), a (as in was), $\mathbf{e}$ (as in he), $\mathbf{i}$ (as in mind) <br> Revisit reading the common exception words water, where, who, again |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 2 | Five b) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: $\mathbf{o}$ (as in no), u (as in unit), $\mathbf{u}$ (as in put), ow (as in snow), ie (as in chief) <br> Revisit reading the common exception words thought, through, mouse, work |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 3 | Five b) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: ea (as in head), er (as in her), ou (as in you), ou (as in could), ou (as in mould) <br> Revisit reading the common exception words different, any, eyes |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 4 | Five b) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: $\mathbf{y}$ (as in by), $\mathbf{y}$ (as in $\mathbf{g y m}$ ), y (as in very), ch (as in school), ch (as in chef) <br> Revisit reading the common exception words friends, once, please |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 1 | 5 | Five b) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative pronunciations of known graphemes for reading: $\mathbf{c}$ (as in cell), $\mathbf{g}$ (as in gent), ey (as in they) <br> Revisit reading all common exception words <br> Practise common misconceptions |  |


| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 1 | Five c) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative spellings of phonemes: /ch/ (as in picture), /ch/ (as in catch), /j/ (as in fudge), /m/ (as in lamb), /n/ (as in gnat), /n/ (as in knit), /r/ (as in wrap) Revisit reading all common exception words |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 2 | Five c) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative spellings of phonemes: /s/ (as in listen), /s/ (as in house), /z/ (as in please), /u/ (as in some), /ee/ (as in happy), /i/ (as in donkey), lear/ (as in here), /ear/ (as in beer) Revisit reading all common exception words |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 3 | Five c) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative spellings of phonemes: /ar/ (as in father), /ar/ (as in half), /air/ (as in there), /air/ (as in pear), /air/ (as in bare), /or/ (as in all), /or/ (as in four), /or/ (as in caught), /ur/ (as in learn), /ur/ (as in word), /oo/ (as in could), /oo/ (as in put) <br> Revisit reading all common exception words |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 4 | Five c) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative spellings of phonemes: /ai/ (as in day), /ai/ (as in came), /ee/ (as in sea), /ee/ (as in these), lee/ (as in happy), /ee/ (as in chief), /ee/ (as in key), /igh/ (as in pie), ligh/ (as in by), /igh/ (as in like), /oa/ (as in toe), /oa/ (as in bone), /(y)oo/ (as in cue), /(y)oo/ (as in tune), /(y)ool (as in stew) <br> Revisit reading all common exception words |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 5 | Five c) (Mastery) | Revisit alternative spellings of phonemes: /oo/ (as in clue), /oo/ (as in June), /oo/ (as in blew), /sh/ (as in special), /sh/ (as in station), /sh/ (as in sugar), /sh/ (as in chef) Revisit reading all common exception words |  |
| Year 2 <br> Autumn Term 2 | 6 | Five c) (Mastery) | Assessment and review of all alternative spellings of phonemes. Assessment and review of all common exception words |  |

* At this point phonics teaching will continue as an intervention for those children who still require it. Year 2 children will move on to learning spelling as per National Curriculum requirements.
* Note: Y1 NC coverage should also be taught within Year 1 English lessons.

