

At Queens Academy, children are placed into spelling groups based on their current spelling knowledge rather than their year group. This ensures every child receives teaching that matches their needs. The table below shows the main spelling patterns, rules and word structures taught within each spelling group. Regular practice of these patterns at home will help reinforce classroom learning and build confidence in spelling.

Spelling Group	Key Learning Focus
Reception	• Single letter sounds (a, m, s, t, p, etc.) • Digraphs and trigraphs (sh, ch, th, ng, nk, ay, ee, igh, ow, oo, ar, or, air, ir, ou, oy) • Reading and spelling common high-frequency "red words" • Segmenting and blending sounds to spell simple words
Year 1	• Alternative spellings for vowel sounds (a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, aw, ai, oa, ew, ear, etc.) • Alternative spellings for consonant sounds (ph, wh, ck, tch) • Plurals using -s and -es • Adding -ing, -ed, -er, -est to root words • Using the prefix un-
Year 2	• More alternative vowel and consonant spellings • Soft c and soft g spellings • Spelling patterns such as -dge, kn-, gn-, wr- • Changing y to i before adding suffixes • Dropping e before adding suffixes • Doubling consonants before suffixes • Suffixes: -ment, -ness, -ful, -less, -ly • Common homophones and exception words
Year 3	• Prefixes: dis-, mis-, in-, re-, sub-, super- • The suffix -ly • The suffix -ous • Word endings including -sion and -sure • Alternative spellings such as ei, eigh, ey for the /ay/ sound • Common homophones

Year 4	• Prefixes: il-, im-, ir-, inter-, anti-, auto- • Adding suffixes to words with stressed syllables • Suffixes: -ation, -ous, -ssion, -sion • Alternative spellings such as sc and ch • The ending -ture • Common homophones
Year 5	• Words ending in -ant, -ance, -ancy • Words ending in -ent, -ence, -ency • Words ending in -able, -ably, -ible, -ibly • The suffixes -ous and -cian • The ough spelling pattern and its different sounds • Silent letters • Advanced homophones
Year 6	• Advanced suffix rules involving words ending in -fer • Word endings -tious and -cious • Advanced homophones (e.g. advice/advice, practice/practise, licence/license) • Statutory Year 5/6 spelling vocabulary