



SUBJECT PROGRESSION: English Progression – EYFS



This document demonstrates which statements from the 2020 Development Matters are prerequisite skills for Writing, Reading and Spoken Language within the National Curriculum. The tables below outline the most relevant statements from the Early Learning Goals in the Early Years Statutory Framework and the Development Matters age ranges for Three and Four Year Olds and Reception to match the programme of study for English.

Writing

Writing: Transcription Spelling Phonics and Spelling Rules

Three and Four Year Olds	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; write 'm' for mummy.
Reception	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with the letter/s.Write short sentences with words with known letter-sound correspondences using a capital letter and a full stop.

Writing: Transcription Handwriting Letter Formation, Placement and Positioning

Three and Four Year Olds	Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use large-muscle movements to wave flags and streamers, paint and make marks.Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.Shows a preference for a dominant hand.
	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Write some letters accurately.
Reception	Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently. Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use their core muscle strength to achieve a good posture when sitting at a table or sitting on the floor. #Develop the foundations of a handwriting style which is fast, accurate and efficient.
	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form lower case and capital letters correctly.
ELG	Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a pencil effectively in preparation for fluent writing – using the tripod grip in almost all cases
	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.

Writing: Composition

Planning, Writing and Editing

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story.
	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary. Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example, writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; write 'm' for mummy. Write some or all of their name. Write some letters accurately.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment, like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses, etc
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn new vocabulary. Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences. Describe events in some detail. Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities. Explain how things work and why they might happen. Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding. Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words. Use new vocabulary in different contexts. Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form lower case and capital letters correctly. Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with the letter/s. Write short sentences with words with known letter-sound correspondences using a capital letter and a full stop. Re-read what they have written to check it makes sense.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop storylines in their pretend play.
ELG	Literacy Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed. Spell words by identifying sounds in them and representing the sounds with a letter or letters. Write simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others.
	Expressive Arts and Design Being Imaginative and Expressive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and teachers.

Writing: Awareness of Audience, Purpose and Structure

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a wider range of vocabulary. Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions. Can start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns. Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn new vocabulary. Use new vocabulary throughout the day. Describe events in some detail. Use talk to help work out problems and organise thinking and activities. Explain how things work and why they might happen. Develop social phrases. Use new vocabulary in different contexts
ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in small group, class and one-to-one discussion, offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate. ▪ Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.
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Writing: Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation

Sentence Construction and Tense

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understand 'why' questions, like: 'Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?' ▪ Develop their communication, but may continue to have problems with irregular tenses and plurals, such as 'runned' for 'ran', 'swimmed' for 'swam'. ▪ Use longer sentences of four to six words.
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learn new vocabulary. ▪ Use new vocabulary throughout the day. ▪ Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences. ▪ Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives
ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate. ▪ Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.

Use of Phrases and Clauses

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use longer sentences of four to six words.
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences. ▪ Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives

ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.
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Poetry and Performance

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sing a large repertoire of songs. Know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar. Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc. Remember and sing entire songs. Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match'). Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down and down and up) of familiar songs. Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know.
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in story times. Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words. Learn rhymes, poems and songs.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody. Develop storylines in their pretend play.
ELG	Literacy Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.
	Expressive Arts and Design Creating with Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.
	Expressive Arts and Design Being Imaginative and Expressive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with their peers and their teacher. Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time to music.

Non-Fiction

Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Engage in non-fiction books.▪ Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.
ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.
	Literacy Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play

Reading

Reading: Word Reading

Phonics and Decoding

Three and Four Year Olds	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - spot and suggest rhymes - count or clap syllables in words - recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother
Reception	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read individual letters by saying the sounds for them. ▪ Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of letter-sound correspondences. ▪ Read some letter groups that each represent one sound and say sounds for them. ▪ Read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter-sound correspondences and, where necessary, a few exception words.
ELG	Literacy Word Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Say a sound for each letter in the alphabet and at least 10 digraphs. ▪ Read words consistent with their phonic knowledge by sound-blending. ▪ Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

Reading: Common Exception Words

Reception	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read a few common exception words matched to the school's phonic programme.
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Reading: Fluency

Three and Four Year Olds	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - spot and suggest rhymes - count or clap syllables in words - recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother ▪ Understand the five key concepts about print:
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - print has meaning - the names of different parts of a book - print can have different purposes - page sequencing - we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom
Reception	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blend sounds into words, so that they can read short words made up of letter-sound correspondences. ▪ Read simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known letter-sound correspondences and, where necessary, a few exception words. ▪ Re-read books to build up their confidence in word reading, their fluency and their understanding and enjoyment.
ELG	Literacy Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read aloud simple sentences and books that are consistent with their phonic knowledge, including some common exception words.

Reading: Comprehension

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens. ▪ Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got sofat?" ▪ Be able to express a point of view and debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.
	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Listen to and talk about stories to build familiarity and understanding. ▪ Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words. ▪ Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound. ▪ Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary
ELG	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. ▪ Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories. ▪ Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play.

Reading: Comparing, Contrasting and Commenting

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be able to express a point of view and debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.
Reception	Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.
ELG	Communication and Language Listening, Attention and Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen attentively and respond to what they hear with relevant questions, comments and actions when being read to and during whole class discussions and small group interactions.
	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate

Reading: Words in Context and Authorial Choice

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a wider range of vocabulary.
	Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn new vocabulary. Use new vocabulary throughout the day. Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words. Use new vocabulary in different contexts. Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary
ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.

	Literacy Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary. ▪ Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play
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Reading: Inference and Prediction

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understand 'why' questions, like: "Why do you think the caterpillar got sofat?"
ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate
	Literacy Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anticipate (where appropriate) key events in stories

Poetry and Performance

Three and Four Year Olds	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sing a large repertoire of songs. ▪ Know many rhymes, be able to talk about familiar books, and be able to tell a long story.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar. ▪ Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses, etc. ▪ Remember and sing entire songs. ▪ Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match'). ▪ Sing the melodic shape (moving melody, such as up and down and down and up) of familiar songs. ▪ Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know
Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engage in story times.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retell the story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text; some as exact repetition and some in their own words. Learn rhymes, poems and songs.
	Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody. Develop storylines in their pretend play.
ELG	Literacy Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.
	Expressive Arts and Design Creating with Materials Being Imaginative and Expressive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories. Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with their peers and their teacher. Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and (when appropriate) try to move in time to music.

Non-Fiction

Reception	Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in non-fiction books. Listen to and talk about selected non-fiction to develop a deep familiarity with new knowledge and vocabulary.
ELG	Communication and Language Speaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.
	Literacy Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play