



Spelling at St Malachy's

Plan Updated	September 2022
Policy Agreed	September 2022
To be Reviewed	September 2024

ST MALACHY'S SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

- ❖ St. Malachy's is a Catholic School where we will all do our best to do the work of Jesus.
 - ❖ We will study, pray, play and celebrate together.
 - ❖ We will care for each other and look after each other, just like a big family.
 - ❖ It is important to remember that we are all good and clever in different ways.
 - ❖ We will learn important lessons that will help us when we are grown up.
 - ❖ In our school it will be fun and we will strive to make it a safe place.

The Teaching of Spelling

The teaching of spelling is an essential part of our school curriculum. Children throughout KS1 and KS2 are taught spelling during three, fifteen minute sessions per week:

1. Introduce/review and teach
2. Practise and apply
3. Review of learning

The spelling scheme that we follow here at St Malachy's is called 'Rising Stars Spelling'. Spelling is taught using a range of strategies to help the children to learn including phonetically, visually, through the use of mnemonics, rule-based strategies, word-meaning strategies, orally and through games, stories and rhymes.

Early Years (Nursery and Reception)

The skills of early spelling are taught to the children from the first moment they enter school. When children begin the 'Read, Write Inc' scheme, they begin to learn how to sound out simple words using their phonics knowledge. Children also learn to spell slightly more tricky words on sight. Word cards are sent home on a weekly basis once the children are in Reception. There isn't a spelling 'test' on these words, the children are just required to identify them on sight, orally to a member of staff in the Reception team.

Home/School Speller

Our school spelling scheme - Rising Stars - supports the children to learn to spell by helping them to understand specific spelling 'rules'. From Year 1 - Year 6, children are sent home spellings on a Monday, followed by a test on a Friday. The children will be being taught the specific spelling rule, to match their spellings, throughout the week in class. Children with learning needs will be provided with differentiated weekly spellings by the class teacher.

KS1

Children in KS1 have the Rising Stars spelling scheme delivered to them three times per week by either the class teacher or classroom teacher assistant. Ten spellings per week are sent home with the children and the children are expected to learn how to spell them, using their knowledge of the spelling rule that is being taught in class, as part of their homework that week.

Spelling within Key Stage 2

Children in KS2 also have the Rising Stars scheme delivered in class, three times per week. It is either the class teacher or classroom teaching assistant who deliver the scheme. The children take home between ten and fourteen spellings on Monday, every week, which they are expected to learn before being tested on Friday. The children should be using their knowledge of the spelling 'rules' that they know to aid them whilst learning to spell new words.