

Changes to the Teaching of Spelling

Dear Parents and carers,

We are very excited to share with you information about changes to how we teach spelling in school. We have now signed up to the 'Spelling Shed' scheme of learning, which will really help us to support our children with their spelling in a more engaging way, reducing the anxiety caused by formal weekly spelling tests.

The Spelling Shed helps children to practise spelling via both teacher-led lessons in school and online game activities. With built-in scaffolding and support, the online games allow children to practise their spellings at a level that they are comfortable with. In the main game, children start by seeing and hearing the word before selecting the letters they need from a given selection. As the difficulty increases, the support lessens and children spell the words using a keyboard. The words that feature in these games are words that your child is learning in school that week, or requires further practise on. The words will change every Friday. Your child's teacher will monitor your child's progress and adapt the lists as necessary.

Once your child has their login information, they can access our online game via <https://play.edshed.com/en-gb> . There is an app available at a small cost, but this is not necessary as the website has everything offered by the app. Log-in details for your child will be sent home this week. Your child has already been shown what to do in school, and how to access the activities online, so they should be able to get going! The Spelling Shed does not share any personal information and their full privacy policy can be accessed at <https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/privacy>

If you have any questions about Spelling Shed, please don't hesitate to contact me at: r.cameron@kf.starmat.uk.

Kind Regards

Becca Cameron (English subject leader)