**Parents Guide to Supporting KS1 Children with Spelling**

During Key Stage 1, children will learn how to spell a wide range of words and develop their spelling technique. There are a range of methods that children can use to develop their spelling skills. This document compliments the PowerPoint and explains the methods outlined further.

* ***Touch Spelling***

Children will say the word slowly. For every sound they hear, children will tap their finger and then write the word. Children should try and sound out by phonics.

* ***Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check***

This is a very well-known method! Children simply look at their spelling, say the spelling out loud, cover the word so they cannot see it and then write the word. Children should then check their spellings.

* ***Flashcards***

On flashcards, children will write each spelling on a flashcard. On the other side of the flashcard, children will write the meaning of the word. As a parent, you can play with your child and help improve their vocabulary and understanding. Give children the meaning and ask them to spell the word or ask children to spell the word and provide the meaning.

* ***Games***

Children can develop their spelling by engaging in memorable, fun activities. By playing games such as hangman, scrabble or charades, children will improve their word recognition and vocabulary.

* ***Colourful Spellings***

When writing out spellings, children can try making them colourful. Children could write every letter or phonic in different colours or they can write vowels and consonants in two different colours.

* ***Build a sentence***

To develop contextual understanding, children can put their spelling into a sentence. E.g.) ***Night*** – “Tuesday ***night*** was very cool and icy!”

* ***Spot Patterns***

Children can try and spot patterns in their spellings. Lots of words start or end similarly and working out patterns can help improve spelling technique. For example, Write, Wrote, Wrong and Wreck all begin with ‘Wr’.

* ***Say the word out loud***

Children can practice saying and spelling the word out loud. As a parent, you can help by providing a meaning or word which the children must spell.

* ***Make a List***

Children can make a list of spellings in alphabetical order. This will improve children’s understanding of the alphabet while providing some order to spellings. Children can also try and order based on the second letter, third letter and so on. Children may also try and produce a spelling pyramid, starting from the first letter then adding a new letter for every row.

* ***Use Different Materials***

Children can use different materials to write their spellings in such as felt tips, paint or using cut out letters from magazines and newspapers.

* ***Break Down the Word***

There are a range of ways for children to break down words and spellings. This will help children associate sounds and words. Children can play an instrument to each syllable such as a tambourine or maracas. Alternatively, children can also clap each syllable and learn how to spell based on the number of claps.

Children can also play ‘silly syllables’. To play, children can speak one syllable in a loud voice and the next one in a whisper. Children could also say syllables in different accents.

* ***Make a Mnemonic***

Mnemonics are a great way to remember spellings! As a parent, you can help make a rhyme which follows each letter of the word. For example, “Come” – Can Ostriches Meet Elephants.

* ***Magnetic Tiles***

‘Magnetic Tiles’ can be pieces of cards with phonics on them. Children can spread the phonics across a table and then say their spelling and find the sounds/phonics that make them up.

* ***Spelling in Shaving Foam***

Spelling in shaving foam is a fun and messy way to help children learn how to spell. Children can practice writing their spellings into the shaving foam, which will provide a sensory feel. Writing in shaving foam will also help with word recognition and letter formation. When the child has spelt the word correctly, they can simply rub the shaving foam and try another one.

* ***Underlining the hard parts***

Underlining the hard parts in words is a great way to highlight where the child needs to focus. The child can underline parts of the word that they struggle with.

* ***Encourage Reading***

Reading is a great way of opening your child’s mind to new words and vocabulary. Through this, children will improve their word recognition and spelling.

There are lots of ways to learn how to spell. These are just some age-appropriate strategies that could work for your child. It is important to try a range of ways and find what works best!