

Spelling Priority areas Year 3/4

Spelling pattern

Heavy focus:

Endings which sound like / ʃən /, spelt –tion, –sion, –ssion, –cian

Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable

The suffix –ous

Homophones, near homophones and other words that are often confused (Years 3 and 4)
homophones and other words that are often confused (Years 5 and 6)

The / ʌ / sound spelt ou

The suffix –ly (but as part of words that had other 3/ 4 and/or 5 / 6 patterns)

Prefixes (re/dis/mis ONLY)

Medium focus:

Words with the / eɪ / sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey

The / i / sound spelt y other than at the end of words

Endings which sound like / ʒən /

words with the /k/ sound spelt ch

Words with the / s / sound spelt sc

Words with endings sounding like / ʒə / or / tʃə /

Light focus:

The suffix –ation

Words with the / ʃ / sound spelt ch

words ending with the /g/ sound spelt –gue and the /k/ sound spelt –que

Possessive apostrophe with plural words