



## Mill Hill Community Primary School

Year 4 spelling rules	
Spelling rules	Example words
<p><u>Prefixes</u></p> <p>A prefix is a letter or group of letters that can be added to the beginning of a word to make a new word.</p>	
<p>dis- (negative)  mis- (negative) in- (means not)  im-(means not – Usually used if root word starts with ‘m’ or ‘p’)  il- (means not– Usually used if root word starts with ‘l’)  ir-(means not– Usually used if root word starts with ‘r’)  re- (means again or back)  anti- (means not or against)  auto- (means self, own or automatic)  sub- (means under)  super- (means above or more than)  inter-(means between or among)</p>	<p>disallow/ disown/ disobey/ disregard/ dislike  misbehave/ mislead/ mistreat/ misprint incorrect / inefficient/ informal/ invalid immoral/  immature/ impossible/ impolite  illegal / illogical/ illegible/  irremovable/ irresponsible/ irregular/ irrational  refresh / redo/ readjust/ redesign/ refresh  anticlockwise / antivirus autograph/  autobiography subtitle/ submarine  supersonic/ superpower/ supernatural interlock/  interchange/ intercity/ international</p>
<p><u>Suffixes</u></p> <p>A suffix is a letter or group of letters that can be added to the end of a word to make a new word.</p>	
<p>-ing / -ed/  When the vowel sound is long (sounds like its name) the root word doesn’t change when the suffix -ing,- er or -ed is added.  If the long vowel sound is because of a split digraph, we take off the ‘e’ and add the suffix.  When the vowel sound is short, the end consonant doubles before adding -ing,- er or -ed.  If the word has more than one syllable and ends with a single consonant, but the stress isn’t on the last syllable, you don’t need to double the last letter before adding a suffix:</p>	<p>Playing/ flying/ trying/ stayed/ rained  Sharing/ caring/ making/ gluing/ writing  Forgetting/ runner/ hotter/ swimming  Hunting, gardening, cancelled, singing</p>
<p>-ation -ous -ly  Some words you don’t need to change the spelling of the root word when you add -ation, -ous, -ly.  Sometimes the spelling can change, especially if the word ends in ‘e’</p>	<p>live +ly =lively danger  +ous = dangerous  expect + ation = expectation  donate + ation = donation sense  + ation = sensation humble+ ly  = humbly</p>

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Word endings The endings – 'sure' and – 'ture' sound similar but are spelt differently.	
Word endings – 'sure' and 'ture'	Furniture/ leisure/ pressure/ capture/ torture/ composure/ gesture / manufacture
The shun sound –tion / -sion / -cian / -ssion -tion usually used when the root word ends in a t or te  -sion is used when the root word ends in d, de or s, se  -cian is used when the root word ends in c or cs -ssion is used when the root word ends in ss or mit	Direct- direction/ friction complete- completion/ invite- invitation intend- intension/ televise- television/ expand- expansion/ conclude- conclusion music- musician / optics- optician possess- possession / express- expression
Short 'i' sound The short 'i' sound can be spelt with an i or a y.	trick / myth / crypt / wish / crystal / chin
The hard 'c' sound The hard 'c' sound is like a 'k' sound. It can be spelt different ways.	attack / cricket / duck king / walk / kitten picnic / coffee / doctor
The soft 'c' sound The soft 'c' sound is like a 's' sound. It can be spelt different ways.	sentence/ space / excited / pencil / justice / cancel / acid / icy / decent / dance / spicy
The 'sh' sound The 'sh' sound can be spelt in several different ways.	shoe/ parachute/ sugar/ shark/ tissue/ machine/ shampoo/ brochure/ ashamed / pressure
The 'ay' sound The 'ay' sound can be spelt in different ways.	mail/ display/ frame/ sailor/ grapes/ faint/ clay/ behave
Plurals Most plurals are made by adding s or es. For most words that end in f, change the f to a v and add es. For most words that end in y, change the y to ies. Some plurals don't follow the rules. You just have to learn these.	Churches/ keys/ potatoes/ boxes/ ponies/ thieves/ wolves/ pencils  sheep / sheep child/ children foot/ feet goose / geese mouse/ mice woman/ women
Possessive apostrophes Possessive apostrophes show that something belongs to someone. You don't need an apostrophe to show that the word is plural.	Gemma's bat/ Amy's kittens Mrs Kirk's cat. The bride's veil. The parrot's claws were very sharp.
Homophones Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meanings and spellings.	main/ mane be/ bee son/ sun bare/bear there/ their/ they're