



**BASSETT GREEN**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Spelling Shed

## Parent Information Booklet



**Spelling Shed**

<https://play.edshed.com/en-gb/login>

At Bassett Green Primary School, we have invested in Spelling Shed to support and engage the children when learning spellings at home. Spelling Shed is a scheme designed for pupils to practise different spelling patterns online (via the website) and aims to make spelling fun, appealing and memorable.

We are confident that this programme will support our children with learning spelling patterns and applying these to a range of words within their writing. We hope they enjoy learning through the games and look forward to seeing the impact that this has on your child's spelling.

Each week your child will receive printed spellings to learn at home in their home learning journal. These follow the spelling patterns that the children have been learning in school aligned to the National Curriculum content for their year group. Spelling Shed focuses on patterns rather than lists of words as it is intended that once your child knows and understands the pattern, they will be able to apply this to a range of words. They will then be tested on these words in the form of a written spelling test. There will also be common exception words which are a statutory part of the curriculum for spelling.

The key spelling strategies that the children learn in school, during 3 spelling sessions a week, are:

- Phonological knowledge
- Orthographic knowledge
- Morphological knowledge
- Etymological knowledge
- Memorised words

**Phonological Knowledge**

Phonological knowledge is knowing the phonemes (sounds) in English and the graphemes (letters) to represent them.

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**Orthographic Knowledge**

'Ortho' meaning 'correct' and 'graph' meaning 'to do with writing'.

Orthographic knowledge allows learners to understand which letter sequences are possible in order to become effective spellers.

For example, at a glance we can tell that 'lghdea' is probably an incorrect way to spell 'idea'. We know this because the grapheme 'igh' does not usually appear at the beginning of a word.

**Morphological and Etymological Knowledge**

Morphology is the study of the form of words whilst etymology focuses on their origins.

Once you know, for instance, that 'tri' means **three**, you can deduce that a triangle has three sides and that a tricycle has three wheels.



Etymology explains why a word is spelled in a certain way.

Take **'photograph'** as an example.

'Ph' is a Greek spelling of the phoneme /f/.

'Photo' is the Greek root meaning light.

'Graph' is the Greek root meaning writing.

Together, a photograph is an image 'written' with light onto the paper.

**Memorised Words**

We build up a mental lexicon, a store of words we know and are committed to our visual memory.

The phonology, morphology, etymology and orthography of the words helps us to build this bank of memorised words.



Spelling Shed

## How to access Spelling Shed at home:

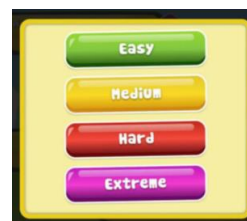
- All user names and passwords for Spelling Shed have been placed into the home learning journals on the log in page.
- Access to Spelling Shed is via <https://www.edshed.com/en-gb/login> and can be used on a desktop, tablet or phone. If you have difficulty with logging on you can also scan the QR code which will take you straight to the site or click on the link [here](#).
- You do NOT need to download a chargeable app to access the games.

## Navigating Spelling Shed:

- After log in, the interface looks like this. The pink notification boxes indicate how many 'assignments' have been set by the teacher. If you click on the assignments box at the top of the menu, you can see all of the assignments together.
- Click on the yellow play button under Spelling Shed which will take you into the Spelling Shed main page.



- The main page shows the assignments that have been set by the teacher. The assignments link to games that include the words that need to be learnt or practised.
  - The icons or badges on the assignments show different achievement levels and are an incentive for the children to play more and aim for higher levels.
- You can also select the scheme from the drop down box (stage 1=Year 1, stage 2=Year 2, stage 3=Year 3, stage 4=Year 4, stage 5=Year 5 and stage 6=Year 6).
  - Click on an assignment and this will take you to the games. Bonus games are for extra practice but do not contribute towards the set assignment.
  - For each game your child can select whether they play easy, medium, hard or extreme levels.
    - **Easy** – children will be shown the word as well as hearing it and they will only see the letters needed to spell the word.
    - **Medium** – children can listen to the word and they will only have the letters they need.
    - **Hard** – children can listen to the word but there are extra letters added.
    - **Extreme** – children will hear the word and there is a full keyboard of letters.



## Scoring and Honey Pots:

- When playing any of the Spelling Shed games, a score and honey pots will be awarded depending how well the children have done.
- The score that is built will add to different spelling shed leagues.



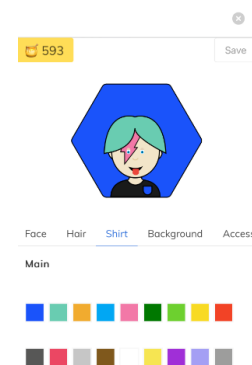
- Children can use the honey pots to 'purchase' items to change their avatar. This can be done by clicking on the 3 lines in the box. A drop down box will appear.



- Click on the avatar.



- This screen will appear where children can select 'free' designs for their avatar or use the honey pots to 'purchase' them.



If you have any questions about Spelling Shed, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or Nicky Long, Curriculum Lead.