Birklands Primary School



Year 4 Grammar Overview

National Curriculum Objectives (Statutory Requirements)

Detail of content to be introduced in Year 4:

Word:

- The grammatical difference between **plural** and **possessive** -s
- Standard English forms for **verb inflections** instead of local spoken forms [for example, we were instead of we was, or *I* did instead of *I* done]

Sentence:

- Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. the teacher expanded to: the strict maths teacher with curly hair)
- **Fronted adverbials** [for example, <u>Later that day</u>, I heard the bad news.]

Text:

- Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme
- Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition

Punctuation:

- Use of inverted commas and other **punctuation** to indicate direct speech [for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within inverted commas: *The conductor shouted, "Sit down!"*]
- **Apostrophes** to mark **plural** possession [for example, the girl's name, the girls' names]
- Use of commas after fronted adverbials

Prior Knowledge (Statutory Requirements):

Detail of content pupils should be able to recall from Year 3:

Word:

- Formation of **nouns** using a range of **prefixes** [for example super-, anti-, auto-]
- Use of the **forms** a or an according to whether the next **word** begins with a **consonant** or a **vowel** [for example, a rock, an open box]

Key Knowledge:

Determiner: A word that introduces a noun and identifies it in detail. This may be a definite or indefinite article (a, an, the), a demonstrative (this, that), possessive (your, my), a quantifier (some, many) or a number (six, ten, half).

Pronoun: Any word which can be used to replace a noun.

Possessive pronoun: A pronoun which is used to show ownership. Some can be used on their own ('mine', 'yours', 'his', 'hers', 'ours', 'theirs'), whilst others need to be attached to a noun ('my', 'your', 'her', 'our', 'their', 'whose').

Adverbial: An adverbial is a word or phrase that is used, like an adverb, to modify a verb or clause.

Fronted adverbial: Words or phrases used at the beginning of a sentence, used like adverbs to describe the action that follows. For example, 'With a happy smile, she skipped into the room'.

Ambitious Knowledge:

Synonym: A word which has exactly or nearly the same meaning as another word.

Antonym: A word with the opposite meaning to another, e.g. good/bad, wise/foolish, long/ short.

Modal verb: A special verb which affects the other verbs in the sentence by showing obligation (e.g. 'You should do your homework'), possibility (e.g. 'I might have pizza for tea'), ability (e.g. 'You can ride a bike now') or permission (e.g. 'You may go out now').

Key Vocabulary:

determiner
pronoun
possessive pronoun
adverbial

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Year 4 Grammar Overview

• **Word families** based on common **words**, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, solve, solution, solver, dissolve, insoluble]

Sentence:

• Expressing time, place and cause using **conjunctions** [for example, when, before, after, while, so, because], **adverbs** [for example, then, next, soon, therefore], or **prepositions** [for example, before, after, during, in, because of]

Text:

- Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material
- Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation
- Use of the **present perfect** form of **verbs** instead of the simple past [for example, He has gone out to play contrasted with He went out to play]

Punctuation:

• Introduction to inverted commas to **punctuate** direct speech