

Statutory guidance

# National curriculum in England: English programmes of study

The statutory programmes of study and attainment targets for English at key stages 1 to 4.

From: **Department for Education** (</government/organisations/department-for-education>)

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**Applies to England**

## Documents

[National curriculum in England: English programmes of study](/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study) (</government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-english-programmes-of-study>)

HTML

[National curriculum in England: English programmes of study - key stages 1 and 2](#)

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7de93840f0b62305b7f8ee/PRIMARY\\_national\\_curriculum\\_-\\_English\\_220714.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7de93840f0b62305b7f8ee/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_English_220714.pdf))

Ref: DFE-00181-2013

PDF, 1.02 MB, 88 pages

## National curriculum in England: English programme of study - key stage 3

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7b8761ed915d4147620f6b/SECONDARY\\_national\\_curriculum\\_-\\_English2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7b8761ed915d4147620f6b/SECONDARY_national_curriculum_-_English2.pdf))

Ref: DFE-00184-2013  
PDF, 432 KB, 25 pages

## National curriculum in England: English programme of study - key stage 4

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7585a1ed915d731495a9dd/KS4\\_English\\_PoS\\_FINAL\\_170714.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7585a1ed915d731495a9dd/KS4_English_PoS_FINAL_170714.pdf))

Ref: DFE-00497-2014  
PDF, 171 KB, 7 pages

## English glossary

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7c8e4ded915d48c24108e2/English\\_Glossary.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7c8e4ded915d48c24108e2/English_Glossary.pdf))

PDF, 397 KB, 19 pages

## English appendix 1: spelling

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7ccc06ed915d63cc65ce61/English\\_Appendix\\_1\\_-\\_Spelling.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7ccc06ed915d63cc65ce61/English_Appendix_1_-_Spelling.pdf))

PDF, 286 KB, 26 pages

## English appendix 2: vocabulary, grammar and punctuation

([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7d913aed915d3fb959486f/English\\_Appendix\\_2\\_-\\_Vocabulary\\_grammar\\_and\\_punctuation.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7d913aed915d3fb959486f/English_Appendix_2_-_Vocabulary_grammar_and_punctuation.pdf))

PDF, 323 KB, 6 pages

### **Details**

These are the statutory programmes of study and attainment targets for English at key stages 1 to 4. They are issued by law; you must follow them unless there's a good reason not to.

All schools maintained by the local authority in England must teach these programmes of study from September 2016.

English appendix 1 and appendix 2, and the English glossary do not appear in the HTML document but are available as separate PDFs.

Schools are not required by law to teach the example content in [square brackets] or the content indicated as being 'non-statutory'.

Short [films of teachers and subject experts talking about the national curriculum](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-video-interviews-for-schools) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-video-interviews-for-schools>) and how to use it are also available.

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