

Mr Turnbull's Spelling Group – Autumn Term 1

(Week beginning 7th September 2026)

Week 1

The /shus/ sound at the end of a word is usually spelt '-cious' or '-tious'. If the root word ends in '-ce', '-cious' is often used (i.e. space – spacious, malice – malicious). If the root word takes the suffix '-tion', '-tious' is often used (i.e. ambition – ambitious, caution – cautious). Some words just have to be learnt! Exception – 'anxious'.

vicious precious delicious suspicious malicious cautious
infectious ambitious nutritious occur accompany according

Week 2

The /shul/ sound at the end of a word is usually spelt '-cial' or '-tial'. '-cial' is common after a vowel. '-tial' is common after a consonant.

official special artificial essential confidential initial
commercial financial forty ancient apparent achieve

Week 3

The 'i before e except after c' rule applies to words where the sound spelt by 'ei' is /ee/

brief chief niece believe piece ceiling receipt receive deceit
occupy mischievous aggressive

Week 4

Exceptions to the 'i before e' rule

protein seize caffeine leisure abseil science height weird
foreign necessary muscle marvellous

Week 5

Hyphens can be used to join a prefix to a root word, especially if the prefix ends in a vowel letter and the root word also begins with one.

re-embark re-emerge re-emphasise re-sent re-enlist re-enter
re-enrol co-ordinate co-own co-operate interrupt individual

Week 6

No spellings this week – you're going to Bawdsey!!

Week 7

ASSESSMENT – Thursday 22nd or Friday 23th October 2026