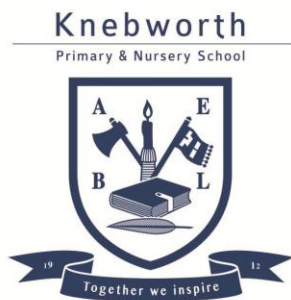


LEARNING TOOLKIT – Year 3 Tenses



Information about tenses

In year 3, children are expected to use the **present perfect form of verbs** instead of the **simple past**, i.e. He has gone out to play *contrasted with* He went out to play.

Glossary definition

The perfect form of a verb generally calls attention to the consequences of a prior event; for example, *he has gone to lunch* implies that he is still away, in contrast with *he went to lunch*. 'Had gone to lunch' takes a past time point (i.e. when we arrived) as its reference point and is another way of establishing time relations in a text. The perfect tense is formed by:

- turning the verb into its past participle inflection
- adding a form of the verb have before it.

It can also be combined with the progressive (e.g. he has been going).

Example

Present perfect to bring a past event into the present moment:

*The first pig **has built** his house of straw but will this be enough to keep him safe?*

We can compare this with the past tense:

*The first pig **built** his house of straw but will this be enough to keep him safe?*

The use of the verb 'to have' is written as 'has'. The second sentence sounds like it is 'over and done with' compared to the first sentence which seems to bring the action more into the moment.