

Phonics



Outstanding in all





The Alphabetic Code

- There are 26 letters in the English language
- There are approximately 44 sounds (phonemes) in the English language
- Combined they make in excess of 140 letter combinations (graphemes)



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Terminology

- **Phoneme** – the smallest unit of sound in a word.
- **Grapheme** – a letter or group of letters that represent a phoneme.
- **Digraphs** – two letters representing one phoneme
ch/sh/ay
- **Consonant digraphs:** ll ss ff zz ng
- **Vowel digraphs:** ai ee ew oa ar
- **Split Vowel digraphs:** a_e e_e i_e o_e u_e
- **Trigraphs:** three letters representing one phoneme.
Eg, ear air ure igh



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Terminology

- **Segmenting** – hearing and saying the individual phonemes within words. *In order to spell, children need to segment a word into its component phonemes and choose a grapheme to represent each phoneme.*
- **Blending** – merging the individual phonemes together to read a word all the way through. *Children should sound out each phoneme, not letter when reading unfamiliar words.*



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What is Phonics?



Phonics = Learning sounds which letters make when either alone or combined together.

Phase 1 is covered in Nursery with some children moving on to single sounds. These are then continued in Reception where children will need to cover phases 2, 3 & 4.

Consonant Digraphs, Vowel digraphs and trigraphs are started in Reception and continued into Year 1.

Phases 4 is revisited in Year 1 before moving on to Phase 5.



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Example

ee

sheep
keep feet

The sheep was under
the tree.



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Reading at Home



re <u>pl</u> ied	de <u>ni</u> ed	sp <u>i</u> ed
se <u>a</u> ..	se <u>a</u> t	tr <u>i</u> ed
		fr <u>i</u> ed
		cr <u>i</u> ed

book
.
.
.

shop
.
.
.

**Sound
Buttons**



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Phonics Screening Check



The phonics screening check happens at the end of Year 1 and is designed to show whether individual children have learnt the skills to decode and blend words to an appropriate standard.

The Department for Education defines the checks as “short, light-touch assessments” that take about four to nine minutes to complete.



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How can I help my child at home?

GREENSHAW
LEARNING TRUST

- Revising the phonics they have already learnt in Reception.
- Support your children with their spelling homework, asking them to identify the phonemes.
- Read as much as possible with your child - PRAISE.
- Be positive! The children do this everyday in school.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.



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Any Questions?



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