

Phonics/Spelling



Outstanding in all





What is Phonics?

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

- 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)





Terminology

- **Phoneme** – the smallest unit of sound in a word.
- **Grapheme** – a letter or group of letters that represent a phoneme (tap).
- **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





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. (Phoneme fingers)*
- **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.*





How do we teach Phonics?



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.

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

Phase 6 is covered at the end of Year 1 and throughout Year 2.

Complex code is introduced in Year 3 and continues up to Year 6.





Example

ee

sheep
keep feet

The sheep was under the tree.





Reading

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

book
· · ·

shop
· · ·

Sound Buttons





Phonics Screening Check



Throughout the country, children in Year 1 will all take part in a phonics screening check.

This will happen at the beginning of June.

Children who do not pass the test will need to resit it in Year 2.





Phonics Screening Check



The phonics screening check 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.





What will they need to do?

The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one-to-one and read each word aloud to a teacher. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 nonsense words.

Section 2
fair
flute
goat
shine

	bip
	mav
	ind
	teg
	poth





Results



All of the Phonic Screening Checks will be administered by the child's class teacher.

In the last few years, the "pass threshold" was 32, which meant that children had to read at least 32 words out of 40 correctly.

The threshold mark is communicated to schools by the start of July, after the test has been taken and all schools have submitted their pupils' scores.

Your child will be scored against a national standard, and their result will indicate whether or not they fall below or within this standard.





Spelling in EYFS/KS1



- In Reception, children will use the sounds they have learnt so far to segment and write simple words using their phoneme fingers to support.
- In Year 1, children will be taught alternative spellings for the sounds they have learnt so far. They will touch upon the different spelling rules and how we can use these to help us choose the correct spelling. (Does it look right? Can that sound be used at the end of the word? Does it have a specific rule?)
- In year 2, children will draw upon their previous learning to use the correct spellings more consistently.





Spelling in KS2



In KS2, children will recap the sounds learnt in KS1 by looking for spelling patterns, root words and by developing their understanding of spelling rules during Complex Code lessons.

- In Year 3&4, children are expected to spell half to most of the Year 3/4 common exception words, homophones and words from other origins.
- They are expected to spell words using some to most of the year 3/4 prefixes and suffixes.
- In Years 5&6, children are expected to spell half to most of the Year 5/6 common exception words and homophones.
- They are expected to spell words using some to most of the year 5/6 prefixes and suffixes e.g. include edited writing.
- Children are also expected to use a dictionary to check spellings.
- They will evidence these in their writing and have opportunities to edit spellings.





How can I help my child at home?



- Revising the phonics/spelling rules they have already learnt in class.
- Support your children with their homework.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.
- Be positive! The children do this everyday in school.
- Read as much as possible with your child (Bug Club).



Practice and repetition of phonics knowledge – and the application of this knowledge to carefully matched decodable books – is vital, particularly for children at risk of falling behind. DFE Reading framework

