

# Phonics

Phonic teaching is an important part of literacy skills. We aim to teach children fluent word reading skills and provide a good foundation in spelling.

Phonic teaching involves showing children the sounds of letters (not the letter names) and how these sounds can be blended together to make words. E.g. The word 'cat' is a decodable word because the letter sounds can be blended together. c - a - t → cat

We teach phonics using a government scheme called 'Letters and Sounds'. This is organised into six phonic phases which your child progresses through as their reading ability improves.

- Phase 1 - Children learn rhymes, keep rhythms and start to relate letter sounds to words. E.g. b for bag.
- Phase 2 - Children learn initial letter sounds and build 3 letter words.
- Phase 3 - Children learn all 44 phonemes and blend sounds to read words
- Phase 4 - Children blend consonants together to read difficult words e.g. blue, grab.
- Phase 5 - Children learn how to spell letter sounds in more than one way e.g. rain, day, make and also how different spelling patterns can make different sounds.
- Phase 6 - Children learn rules for spelling and how to add suffixes to words: E.g. turneded, beautiful, shopping. They also explore words like homophones (their/there/they're).

Your child will be assessed and placed within a phonic phase group. When your child has mastered a phonic phase they will move onto the next phase. They will continue to do this until they get to phase 6. We have a daily 20 minute phonic session every day. The lessons are split into four sections.

- Revisit & review previous sound and word building
- Teach a new phonic skill
- Practise the new skill
- Apply in different situations. E.g. Reading in a sentence, Writing the word in a sentence

Each lesson will be planned with the use of visual, auditory and physical movements to help the children learn new phonic skills. Jolly Phonic actions will still be used to help teach phonics especially at phase 1, 2 & 3.

Alongside teaching phonics we will teach the children to read and spell decodable words and tricky words.

- Decodable words = the letter sounds can be blended together e.g. p - a - n → pan
- Tricky words = individual letter sounds do not create the word e.g. the, was, are.

In your child's reading books and spelling lists, there are a selection of decodable words and tricky words. Please help your child with their word recognition skills by reading and spelling the words at home.

## Phonics Sounds & Spelling Patterns Chart

|  |    |    |  |   |    |    |    |  |     |     |     |     |    |
|--|----|----|--|---|----|----|----|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| s  | ss |    |  | b |    |    |    |  | a   | ai  | ay  | a_e |    |
| p  |    |    |  | f | ff | ph |    |  | e   | ee  | ey  | e_e | ea |
| t  |    |    |  | l | ll |    |    |  | i   | igh | ie  | i_e |    |
| n  |    |    |  | j |    |    | qu |  | o   | oa  | oe  | o_e |    |
| m  |    |    |  | v |    |    | sh |  | u   | ue  | u_e |     |    |
| d  |    |    |  | w | wh |    | th |  |     |     |     |     |    |
| g  |    |    |  | x |    |    | ch |  | air |     | ow  | ou  |    |
| c  | k  | ck |  | y |    |    | ng |  | ar  |     | oo  | ew  |    |
| r  |    |    |  | z | zz |    |    |  | ear |     | oi  | oy  |    |
| h  |    |    |  |   |    |    |    |  | ure |     |     |     |    |
|  |    |    |  |   |    |    |    |  | or  | aw  | au  |     |    |
| <p>The shaded sounds are those that children should have encountered in Reception. These will be revised in KS1 and the other sounds and alternative spelling patterns taught. Please practise reading the sounds and blending different combinations of them at home regularly.</p> |    |    |  |   |    |    |    |  | er  | ur  | ir  |     |    |