

Phonics

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

In June, all year 1 children are expected to complete the year 1 Phonics Screening Check.

The aim is to check that a child is making progress in phonics (the sounds they have been taught). They are expected to read a mixture of real words and 'nonsense' words. By ensuring high quality phonics teaching, we want to improve literacy levels and give all children a solid base to build on as they progress through school.

The outcome of this check enables practitioners to see if children may need additional support to help them make progress in Year 2.

What is Phonics?

Systematic synthetic phonics - The teaching of reading and spelling by breaking down words into the smallest unit of sound, building upon prior knowledge and learning in a multi sensory way.

Blending - Putting together the sounds in a word in order to read it, e.g. 'f - r - o - g, frog'.

Segmenting - Breaking a word into its constituent sounds in order to spell them, e.g. 'frog, f - r - o - g'.

Grapheme - How a phoneme is written down. There can be more than one way to spell a phoneme. For example, the phoneme 'ai' is spelt differently in each of the words 'way', 'make', 'fail', 'great', 'sleigh' and 'lady'.

What are alien words?

vus



whape



queep



proom



Sound buttons

vus



whape



queep



proom



Examples

whirling

splet

games

escape

teams

strave

trapeze

clouds

fabric

Video

1.38 – 3.26

video

After the Screening

We will share your child's score with you in their end of year report - /40.

Any child who does not achieve the pass mark, will be part of a small group to re-visit their sounds and will be re-screened again at the end of Year 2.

How to help at home

When reading at home, encourage your child to sound out (segment) unfamiliar words and then blend the sounds together from left to right.

With all books, encourage your child to 'sound out' unfamiliar words and then blend the sounds together from left to right. Once your child has read an unfamiliar word you can talk about what it means and help them to follow the story. You may wish to re-read the whole sentence once you have decoded, to ensure it makes sense and flows with the text.

Flashcards of phonics sounds

Alien Words