

Approach to phonics

Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write. There are 44 sounds in the English language, which we put together to form words.



In EYFS we follow the 'Letters and Sounds' programme for teaching Phonics. Within this we use the 'Jolly Phonics' scheme actions to help the children to remember what the sounds look like. 'Funky Fingers' activity sessions help the children with the writing of sounds. This creates an active learning experience. The children also learn their high frequency words, to read and to write. These are words frequently used in English.

In Class 2, when the children move to Key Stage 1, they follow the National Curriculum 2014 spelling and grammar programme. In Year 1 children prepare for the statutory Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, with daily phonics sessions. High frequency word lists and common exception words are learnt alongside the phonic element of reading and spelling. We call these 'rainbow' and then 'over the rainbow' words (launched September 2016).

Children will have further support when necessary to help them to catch up with their own year group. Some children may benefit from 'cued articulation' of sounds, where the movements of speech are signalled by signs.

It is important that children know the alphabet and should know both the names of the letters and their sounds, so we still sing and rap the alphabet!

Other things to help...

There is a You Tube clip showing how to pronounce sounds at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-eTO8L3t40>

The 'Letters and Sounds' document can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letters-and-sounds>

National Curriculum 2014 English Programmes of Study, which include the Spelling and Grammar requirements can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260491/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_-_English_RS2.pdf