

Phonics

Screening Check



Teaching Phonics



- Children in Key Stage 1 have a phonics lessons 3 times a week, with a spelling test on Friday.
- The school uses Phonics Play to teach phonics, which is closely linked to the National Curriculum and Letters and Sounds. Children in Year 2 are taught about spelling strategies and rules and how to add things like prefixes and suffixes to words.
- Assessments are recorded at the end of each term.



Phonics Screening Check

- All schools have to administer a phonics screening check to children in Year 1. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1 or they have not taken the test before.
- The phonics check is written by the Department for Education. A new check is delivered to schools every year.
- The Department for Education describes the check as a short, light-touch assessment to confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard.



Phonics Screening Check

- The screening check contains 40 words, split into two sections of 20 words.
- Both sections contain a mixture of real words and “alien” words (fake words).
- All “alien” words in the screening check have a picture of an imaginary creature to help the children recognise the fake word.

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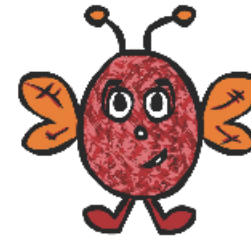
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Screening Check Date

- The screening check will take place the week commencing Monday 10th June 2019.
- If your child is absent during this week then the check will take place as soon as possible afterwards.



Phonics Screening Check

- The class teacher will carry out the check with each child individually.
- The check should last no longer than ten minutes.
- If a child shows signs of distress or tiredness, then the check will stop or a rest break can be given.



Results

- The Phonics Screening Check has a threshold score which shows if the child is at the expected level for Year 1.
- Each year the check has had a different threshold score between **31 - 34 marks out of 40.**



Results

- The results are sent to the local authority and then to the Department for Education. The results are not published but used to help judge a school's provision and standards.
- Parents will be given their child's result with the end of year report.



Preparing for the check

- The children are very familiar with reading real and fake words as part of the Phonics Play programme.
- The children in Year 1 and any children in Year 2 who are retaking the test have already completed a **mock test**. This has been done to help them recognise the format of the check and the type of word cards they have to read.
- The aim is to make the check as **normal** as possible to their daily reading and phonics lessons.



Parent Support

- Read regularly with your child and make it enjoyable. This can be sharing a book together, as well as children reading to you and you to them.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement.
- Look at the pictures and other parts of the book either before or during the reading time.



Parent Support

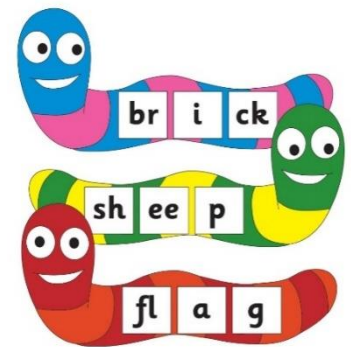
How children are taught to decode:

- Say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Read each sound and then blend them together.

Point to each letter (b in bat), or letter group (igh in sigh).

Say each sound and then run your finger under the whole word as you say it.

- Talk about the meaning of words to check children's understanding.
- Work at your child's pace.
- Give lots of praise and encouragement!



Useful Websites

- **Phonicsplay** ~ Free games that we use in phonics lessons. You can choose a phase (level) that is suitable for your child.
<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeIndex.htm>

- **ictgames** ~ Follow the Literacy link for a variety of games. The objectives are listed next to the game.
<http://www.ictgames.co.uk/>

- **BBC bitesize** ~ Phonics and spelling based activities.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/>



Further Information

- More details about the screening check can be accessed on the Department for Education website:



Department
for Education

