

Phonics Meeting for Parents



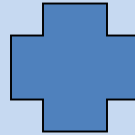
Why teach phonics?

- Phonics helps children to develop reading and spelling skills at an early stage,
e.g. **cat** can be sounded out for reading and spelling
- We use a scheme called '**Letters and Sounds**' as our teaching resource.
- <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

Phonics at a glance

Phonics is...

Skills of
segmentation and
blending



Knowledge of
the alphabet.

b oy boy

e n j oy enjoy

Phonics Consists of:

- 26 letters in the alphabet
- These letters and combinations of these letters make 44 sounds
- Speech sounds- **phonemes**- the smallest units of sound in words
- Letters or groups of letters- **graphemes**
- Phonemes can be represented by **graphemes** of one, two or three letters: t sh igh

Look at the sound ai

can be written with these graphemes

rain

plane

play

grey

eight

lazy

Blending – a key skill for reading

- Recognising the letter sounds in a written word, for example:

c-u-p

and then merging or ‘blending’ them in the order in which they are written to pronounce the word ‘cup’.

Segmenting – a key skill for writing

- ‘Chopping up’ the word to spell it out
- The opposite of blending
- Identifying the individual sounds in a spoken word (e.g. h-i-m , s-t-or-k) and writing down letters for each sound (phoneme) to form the word.

Year 1 phonic test

- A national test which takes place in June
- All year 1 children will take the test
- The checks consist of 40 words and non-words (nonsense words) which the children will be asked to read one-to-one with me

How to help

- Saying the sounds correctly with your child is extremely important
- The way we say a sound may well be different from when you were at school
- The alphabet is taught separately to phonics. These are letter names.
- If you are not sure of the sound check the phonic mats

What does quality phonics learning look like in school?

- Daily
- Fast pace
- Inclusive
- Varied multi-sensory activities
- Clear and correct enunciation of phonemes
- Timely and appropriate feedback
- Consistency of vocabulary eg sound buttons, split digraphs, sounds, letter shapes etc.

Phonic learning is fun!

The children learn and practise their phonemes in lots of fun ways:

- Sound talking and rhyming.
- Playing games – table games or interactive games on the computer.
- Using phoneme frames, “sound buttons” and whiteboards to spell words.
- Sorting phonemes.
- Making words with phonemes.
- Being phoneme “detectives”.
- Reading and writing sentences. Silly sentences are great fun!

Useful websites

www.letters-and-sounds.com

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/the-alphablocks-guide-to-phonics

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>

Mr Thorne does phonics