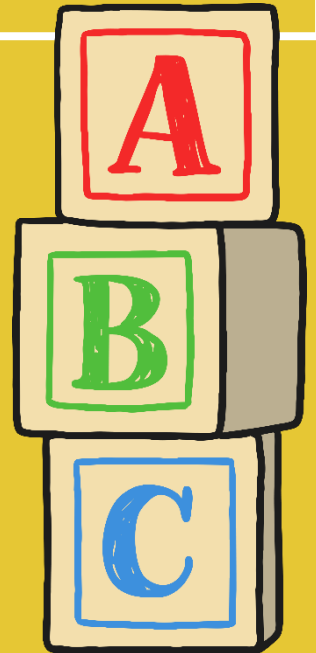


Year One

# Phonics Screening Check

A Guide for Parents



# What is Phonics?

Phonics is the teaching of sounds which make up words, so the children are able put the sounds together to then read words.

The children learn which letters make up the different sounds, for example ai, ay, a-e and ey all make the same sound.

sn**ai**  
s**ay**  
sn**ake**  
h**ey**



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# What is the Phonics Screening Check?

All children in Year 1 will take the screening check during the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> June.

The purpose of this is to check if the children have learnt phonic skills and can apply these skills to read words.



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# What Happens During the Test?

The test contains 40 words.

Each child will sit one-to-one and read each word aloud to a teacher.

The children will complete the check at their own pace.

There will be 20 real words and 20 nonsense / alien words.

Children can sound out the word and then **must** blend the sounds to make the word. For example sn- ai-l then blend to say the word snail.



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# Alien Words (Nonsense Words)

The alien words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien so they know this is a word they will not be familiar with.



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# Reporting to Parents

By the end of the summer term we will report your child's results to you. There are 40 words and the 'pass' mark since the check was introduced has been 32. This could change though.



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# How Can I Help My Child at Home?

- Read and practise the real and nonsense words we have provided.
- Read as much as possible with your child and to your child. Little and often is best.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right.
- Encourage and praise a good effort with reading and sounding out.
- Blend the sounds by pointing to each one, e.g. /c/ in cat, /p/ in pat, /ng/ in sing, /ee/ in been. Next move your finger under the whole word as you say it.
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.

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Any questions?