



Phonics is making connections between the sounds of our spoken words and the letters that are used to write them down. It opens up the potential of reading and so much other learning, too. Children are at an advantage if they are taught phonics efficiently and as early as possible in their learning journey.

Our school has chosen Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised as our systematic, synthetic phonics programme (SSP) to teach early reading and spelling.

How we teach phonics

- In the nursery, children follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised 'Foundations for Phonics' guidance. The focus is on daily oral blending and language development through high quality stories and rhymes.
- In reception and Y1, children follow the progression within the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised programme. Phonics is taught daily and there is a review session on a Friday.
- Phonics starts in reception in week 2 to ensure the children make a strong start.
- By the end of reception, children will have been taught up to the end of phase 4.
- By the end of year 1, children will have been taught up to the end of phase 5.
- Reception lessons start at 10 minutes, with daily additional oral blending – increasing to 30 minutes as soon as possible.
- Y1 lessons are 30 minutes long.
- In Y2, phonic lessons are taught daily to children where appropriate – following the model of Little Wandle but plugging specific gaps identified through assessment.
- In Y2-Y6 there are planned phonic 'catch-up' sessions following a set model to address specific reading/writing gaps.
- In addition to the phonics session, children in Reception and Y1 (and Y2 where appropriate) will take part in a reading practice session using a decodable book matched to their phonics stage.

- Children in Reception and Y1 (and Y2 where appropriate) will also take home a decodable book to share their reading success at home.

Here is a link to our phonics progression:

https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Programme-Overview_Reception-and-Year-1-1.pdf

Support for parents

If you would like more information about how to support your child with phonics at home, please follow this link to find videos of the sound pronunciations, letter formation sheets and other helpful resources.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

In addition, parents are invited to attend a phonics evening for EYFS and Y1 in the Autumn Term.