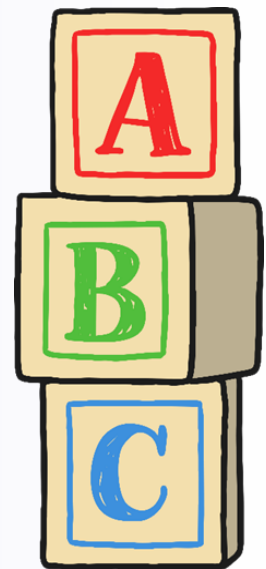


Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Information for Parents

December 2017



What is phonics?

Children learn phonics in Early Years
and Key Stage 1.

Children are taught sounds which are
used orally to identify and make words.
They then learn the letters that make
the sounds and apply these to read and
spell words.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will be taking part in a phonics screening check in June. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result in Year 1 or if they haven't taken the test before.

The 'midpoint check' helps us know what we can do to target support for children in Year 2 for reading and spelling.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

The aim of the check is to ensure all children will be confident readers by the end of Year 2.

The check assesses children's knowledge of **phonics** - knowing the sounds and being able to blend them in both real and nonsense words. It is not a reading test.



What happens during the check?





The check contains 40 words. Each child will work one-to-one and read each word aloud to a teacher.

It takes approximately 10 minutes, although all children are different and will complete it at their own pace.

The list of words are a combination of real and nonsense words. Children's understanding of phonics is assessed as they are asked to 'sound out' the words and blend them together, similar to phonics lessons.

Nonsense words

As the check assesses children's ability to sound out and blend for reading, children will come across real and nonsense words. Nonsense words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This tells children that it will be a word independent from their existing vocabulary.

Practice sheet: Real words	Practice sheet: Pseudo words
in	ot 
at	vap 
beg	osk 
sum	ect 

Reporting to parents

You will find out your child's results by the end of the summer term, which will confirm whether children have met the standard threshold decided upon nationally.

Children that do not achieve the expected standard will retake the check in Year 2.

The results are used in school to help us continue to improve and support children. Ofsted may look at the results as part of their inspection.

How can I help my child?

- Enjoy reading! Read as much as possible to and with your child.
- 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. Then blend the sounds by pointing to each one e.g. s-i-ng then move your finger under the whole word as you say it - sing.

How can I help my child?

- Online phonics games - Nussy, Poop Deck Pirates and Buried Treasure.
- Remember phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader!

Questions?

Thank you for coming along.

You are welcome to stay and explore some activities and ideas for supporting your child in their classroom and ask their teacher any questions you may have.

