

What do school do to support my child?

Phase 1

During Nursery, your child accesses Phase 1 of Letters and Sounds. This phase concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2.

Phase 2 & 3

In Reception, your child will be introduced to all the letters of the alphabet and the sounds they make. They are also introduced to grouped letters that make one sound (b-**oa**-t).





Phase 4 & 5

In year 1, your child is taught that some letters make an alternative sound (t**ow**n, bl**ow**) and that some sounds have an alternative spelling (d-r-**ea**-m, f-**ee**-t).

Grapheme mat										Phase 2 and 3									
S	s	t	ss	p	pp	n	nn	m	mm	d	dd	g	gg	c	ck	k	cc	r	rr
h	hh	b	bb	f	ff	l	ll	j	jj	v	vv	w	ww	x	xx	y	yy		
z	zz	qu	qu	ch	ch	sh	sh	th	th	ng	ng	nk	nk						
a	a	e	e	i	i	o	o	u	u										
ai	ai	ee	ee	igh	igh	oa	oa	oo	oo	ar	ar								
or	or	ur	ur	er	er	ow	ow	oi	oi	ear	ear	air	air						

What does the test look like?

- There are 40 words in the check.
- There are both real words and pseudo-words.
- An alien character shows the children it is a pseudo-word.
- Children have had lots of practice with similar checks.

Section 1	
bem	
dax	
Section 1	
twig	kig 
flick	eld 
vest	
horns	



Phonics Screening Check

Information for parents and carers

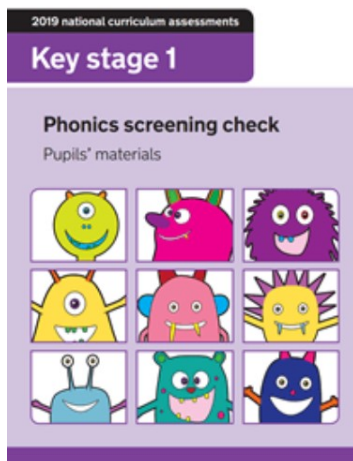
What is the Phonics Screening Check?

The Phonics Screening Check is a National test for children in Year 1. Children take it during June of Year 1, in a one-to-one setting with a teacher.

The Phonics Screening Check tests children's skills at word reading. This is sometimes called decoding.

During the Phonics Screening Check, children are asked to read (decode) 40 words. Most of these words are real words but some are pseudo-words (made-up words).

The test is divided into two sections and it takes around ten minutes to complete.



What does it tell me about my child?



Children who can identify the sounds they have been taught, and blend them to read words, are much more likely to become fluent readers in the future.

The use on non-words helps us establish whether children are reading by applying phonics or just remembering the whole word as an image. Children need to be able to decode using phonics so they can read any unfamiliar word.

If your child does not meet the required mark, this informs parents and teachers that phonics teaching needs to continue and that they may need additional support.

Parents are informed of their child's score in the end of year reports.

Can my child fail the test?

For the last few years, a score of 32 and above has signified that children have a good understanding of phonics.

If your child does not meet the expected score of 32, they will continue to be taught phonics and will then re-sit the check in year 2. This will be held at the same time as the year 1 children.

If your child reaches below 35, they will have some intervention for the sounds that they did not know. This ensures they have a full understanding of phonics.

If your child does not reach 32 when resitting in year 2, phonics teaching will continue. We will also investigate what else is needed to help your child secure these skills.

