

Year 1 Phonic Screening Check Parent Workshop

14.01.26

Many of you will be aware that your children have been learning phonics since reception.

The purpose of phonics is to support children in learning to read. Children have a daily phonics lesson from reception to the end of Year 2.

During these sessions they are taught to recognise units of sound for example; b/s/t/ai/ee/igh.

They are taught to blend the sounds they know to read words as in /t/i/n/ tin and /r/ai/n/ rain

They are also taught to segment a word which also helps children with spelling a word – rain = r/ai/n.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June.

Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1. For 2026, we will be testing children throughout the week starting **Monday 8th June**. **It is very important that your child is in school during this week.**

The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt sufficient phonic decoding and blending skills to their age.

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. They will be familiar with this as we have lots of practise in their phonics sessions. The test will be done in a completely relaxed way, it won't cause any stress or anxiety to the children.

The test will take approximately 10 minutes per child; although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace.

The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.

Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

dat



Real Words

Practice sheet: Real Words

beg

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at

[twinkl.co.uk](https://www.twinkl.co.uk)

sum

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in

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Pseudo Words

Practice sheet: Pseudo Words

vap



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osk



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ot



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ect



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Reporting to Parents

By the end of the Summer Term, all schools must report their child's results to parents. This will be in the form of a score out of 40.

The report will also confirm if your child has met the standard threshold.

Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.

Your child's result will be included in their report at the end of the Summer Term.



How Can I Help My Child At Home?

Play lots of sound and listening games with your child.

Read each night with your child – spot the units of sound.

Encourage and praise – get them to have a ‘good guess’.

Download the free twinkl phonics app <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/twinkl-phonics-suite/id508771799>

DFE website – <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-past-test-materials>

PHONICS PLAY <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

LETTERS AND SOUNDS <https://letters-and-sounds.com/phase-3-games/>



Any Questions?