

Letters and Sounds Summary

The Letters and Sounds Programme suggests an order for teaching the letters, and suggest that a fast pace of one set of letters per week should be taught. It recognises, however, that children's personal experience of letters varies enormously. Most importantly, it progresses from the simple to the more complex aspects of phonics at a pace that is suitable for the children who are learning.

Keep checking your child's Year group page for weekly phonic focuses.

Phase	Phonic Knowledge and Skills
<u>Phase One</u> <u>(Nursery/Reception)</u>	<p>The aim of this phase is to foster children's speaking and listening skills as preparation for learning to read with phonics.</p> <p>Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending (putting sounds together) and segmenting (breaking up words)</p>
<u>Phase Two (Reception)</u> <u>up to 6 weeks</u>	<p>Learning 19 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each letter. Blending sounds together to make words. Segmenting words into their separate sounds. Beginning to read simple captions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Set 1 - s, a, t, p,○ Set 2 - l, n, m, d,○ Set 3 - g, o, c, k,○ Set 4 - ck, e, u, r,○ Set 5 - h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss,
<u>Phase Three</u> <u>(Reception) up to 12 weeks</u>	<p>The remaining 7 letters of the alphabet, one sound for each. Graphemes such as ch, oo, th representing the remaining phonemes not covered by single letters. Reading captions, sentences and questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Set 6 - j, v, w, x○ .Set 7 - y, z, zz, qu○ ch, sh, th, ng○ ear, air, ure, er, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo

<u>Phase Four (Reception)</u> <u>4 to 6 weeks</u>	No new grapheme-phoneme correspondences are taught in this phase. Children learn to blend and segment longer words, e.g. swim, clap, jump.
<u>Phase Five (Throughout Year 1)</u>	<p>Learn graphemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ay, ou, ie, ea, oy, ir, ue, aw, wh, ph, ew, oe, au, a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e. <p>Children learn more graphemes for the phonemes which they already know, plus different ways of pronouncing the graphemes they already know e.g The graphemes 'ea' can make different sounds, evident in dream and bread</p> <p>Reading phonetically decodable two-syllable and three-syllable words.</p>
<u>Phase Six (Throughout Year 2 and beyond)</u>	Working on spelling, including prefixes and suffixes, doubling and dropping letters etc.

Some helpful definitions:

Phoneme: the smallest unit of sound in a word. **Goat** has three phonemes.

A phoneme you hear.

Grapheme: These are the letters that represent the phoneme (sound). The word '**main**' has three graphemes

A grapheme you see.