



# COVID Catch-Up (Phonics and Early Reading)

Spring 2, Week 3 onwards (8<sup>th</sup> March 2021)



**Below is a list of school initiatives we will deliver through first quality teaching in order to plug any gaps and ensure our children know the essentials and the basics really well:**

**Identified Focus Areas: teaching, assessment and parental support**

**Teaching - Consistently 'good' teaching of phonics throughout school.**

- All staff to follow the training sessions delivered on how to continue to provide engaging, active phonics lessons in the light of new COVID restriction.
- Bespoke Long Term Plan used to support teachers in the planning of phonics at each phase (EYFS-Y6)
- All children are now taught in class with only the NTE/SEND being provided with separate bespoke support. No streaming!
- Class teacher and class TA to be present within all phonics sessions.
- 'Everyday Phonics' sessions delivered at the start of every Guided Reading lesson across KS1 which consolidates the taught phoneme of the day for Year 1 children and recaps on Phase 5 for Year 2.
- Additional phonics will be taught within Guided Reading to identified groups. All independent tasks in Year 1 are being centred on the children's independent application of their phonics skills alongside comprehension and in Year 2 there will continue to be an independent opportunity to apply the relevant phase phonics skills.
- All classes have a high profile phonics display which is constantly updated in line with the focus taught phonemes.
- Teachers use only Guided Reading texts that closely mirror the taught graphemes from the phonics sessions or previously taught phonics sessions with children working from Phase 2 to Phase 5. Once working within Phase 6, teachers, where possible, use the texts to consolidate the focus skills, such as suffixes.
- An additional Whole Class Comprehension session to be taught weekly in Year 2 which provides the initial input for children to consolidate in the following weeks Guided Reading.
- Clear structure planned and taught through the Reading Phase of each writing unit with a focus on the different reading domains, particularly; 1a vocabulary, 1b identify and explain key aspects and 1d inference.
- Phonics and Early Reading opportunities planned into the Wider Curriculum lessons.
- Reader of the week presented in Golden Assembly.

**Assessment – To ensure that the greater majority of children are working at the age-related expectations**

- A phonics baseline has been carried out in week 3 to identify the children's current starting points. This will then determine what/if any elements of the Phonics learning needs to be recapped before continuing to work on/towards the age-related phonics phases.



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- Phonics is being taught at 9:00am across EYFS and KS1 to provide opportunities throughout the day for the focus phoneme/s to be reinforced. In EYFS this will include consolidation within teacher-led learning, continuous provision and the outside learning environment and in KS1 within English, Guided Reading and the Wider Curriculum.
- All teachers continue to deliver phonics to their own class (no streaming), therefore enabling them to identify children who require daily additional 'catch-up' in order to remain on track with the greater majority of the class. In KS1 and Year 3 we are using the 'Fast Track Phonics' intervention which provides support to the focus children and NTE/SEND learners.  
In EYFS small group phonics intervention is provided by the class TA alongside the delivery of a language support programme.
- A reading baseline has been carried out in week 3 to identify the children's current starting points. This will then determine what elements of reading need to be taught within the Guided Reading session – phonics application, retrieval.
- 'Cracking Comprehension' intervention to be used in Year 2 and KS2 to develop identified children's comprehension skills. This will be run 3xweekly.
- Daily reading is provided for identified groups of children.

## Parental Support – Strategies developed to further support our parents and children at home.

- Continue to use the Home Learning format, which includes the weekly consolidation of the phonics learning in KS1. Phonics Home Learning will be centred around Purple Mash and videos created by Little Sutton English Hub.
- Weekly phonics updates sent to all parents via Class Dojo.
- Knowledge Organisers shared with the parents at the start of each phonics phase. These are simple, one sided documents that clearly show both our children and parents what the expectations are within each phase and the terminology used.
- EYFS and KS1 CGP phonics books purchased for both Autumn and Summer Terms.
- In EYFS the parents receive the focus phonemes and tricky words on a weekly basis so that these can be revisited at home. In addition, Phonics tasks are being sent home for Home Learning.
- 'Bug Club' reading subscription purchased and used across EYFS and KS1 which will continue to be used in Spring and Summer Term. All children can access closely matched phonics books and complete short task on a weekly basis.