



Phonics Screening Check

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- A short, statutory assessment
- Taken by all Year 1 children in England
- Checks how well children can read words using phonics
- Conducted one-to-one with the class teacher

What Does the Check Involve?

- Children read 40 words
- 20 real words (e.g. 'ship')
- 20 nonsense or 'alien' words (e.g. 'zog')

Section 2		Section 2	
brend		label	
throst		vanish	
stret		blossom	
spraw		thankful	

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The check is divided into two sections

- Section 1 – simple word structures of three or four letters (20 words)
- Section 2 – more complex word structures of five or six letters (20 words)

Section 1			
Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment
sut			
yad			
dop			
uct			
meck			
shig			

Section 2			
Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment
vaw			
meast			
waib			
zome			
brend			
throst			

Sound Buttons

Sound buttons

make learning

to read easy!

How Are Children Supported?

- A teacher known to the child will carry out the test
- Familiar format used in class beforehand
- Familiar, calm environment
- No time pressure – most children take 4- 9 minutes to complete
- Encouragement and praise throughout

When Does It Take Place?

- Takes place **w/b Monday 8th June**
- Administered during the normal school day
- Children usually see it as a reading activity, not a test

How Is the Check Scored?

- Each word read correctly scores 1 mark
- Your child's teacher will mark the test
- Maximum score: 40
- The national pass mark is set each year and is usually 32/40
- Your child's end of year report will inform you whether your child has met the 2026 threshold or not

What If My Child Does Not Meet the Standard?

- Extra phonics support will be provided in Year 2
- Children will retake the check in Year 2
- Many children simply need more time to develop confidence

How Can Parents Help at Home?

- Read regularly with your child
- Encourage sounding out words
- Practise blending sounds
- Make reading fun and positive
- Praise effort, not just accuracy
- Phonics Games
- Phonics Packs



Phonics Pack



rird 

girst 

girl

shirt

fir

hirl 

hirn 

hirm 

fuel

glued

true

Any Questions?

Please contact us if you have any further questions

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