

# 2021 Phonics Screening Check

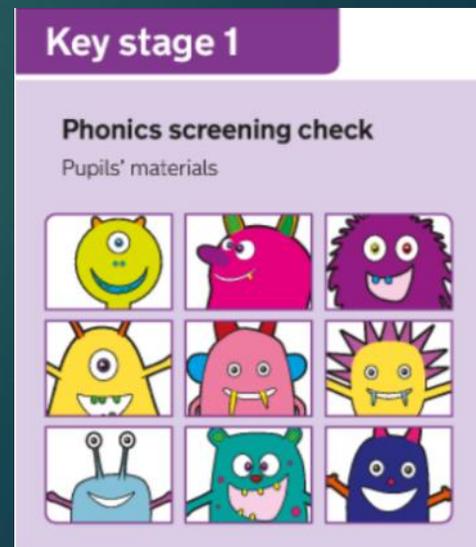


# The aims of today's session:

- ▶ To discuss what the Phonics Screening Check is and what it entails.
- ▶ To have a look at an example screening check.
- ▶ To share with you what we are doing in school to support your child.
- ▶ To offer suggestions of how adults can support their child at home.

# What is the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check?

- ▶ The Year 1 phonics screening check is a way for teachers to ensure that children are making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to read words and that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.
- ▶ The check is taken individually by all children in Year 1 in England, and is taken in June. It will help to identify whether your child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.



# What does the check entail?

- ▶ There are two sections in this 40-word check and it assesses phonics skills and knowledge learned through Reception and Year 1. Your child will read up to four words per page for the teacher and they will probably do the check in one sitting of about 5-10 minutes.
- ▶ It is a school-based check to make sure that your child receives any additional support promptly, should they need it. It is not a stressful situation as the teacher will be well-equipped to listen and understand your child's level of skills. There will be a few practice words first to make sure your child understands the activity.

shin

buzz

harp

third

# What does it check?

- ▶ It checks that your child can:
  - Sound out and blend graphemes in order to read simple words.
    - Read phonically decodable one and two-syllable words, e.g. sand, windmill, beetroots.
    - Read a selection of nonsense words which are referred to as pseudo words.

# What are pseudo words and why are they included?

- ▶ These are words that are phonically decodable but are not actual words. Pseudo words are included in the check specifically to assess whether your child can decode a word using phonics skills and not their memory.
- ▶ The words will be shown to your child with a picture of a monster and they will be asked to tell their teacher what sort of monster it is by reading the word.
- ▶ At Hindley Green, we have found that our children love discovering the name of each alien!

geck



chom



tord



thazz



# How will my child be scored? Is there a pass mark?

- ▶ If children do not reach the required standard, then the teacher will be in touch to discuss plans and offer additional, tailored support to ensure that your child has every opportunity to catch up.
- ▶ For the last few years, the threshold mark, set by the government, has been 32 out of 40. ***This could be different this year.***
- ▶ For children who do not meet the expected standard, they will re-sit the check the following Summer when they are in Year 2.
- ▶ The school will report your child's results to you by the end of the summer term as well as to the local authority, but the results won't be published in a league table.
- ▶ During Parents' Evening, your child's teacher will explain the progress that your child has made so far. They will also discuss if they are currently on track, and if not, what we can work on together to support them.

# How are we supporting the children in school?

- ▶ The children are streamed across Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to ensure that all children are accessing phonics learning at the most appropriate level for them.
- ▶ These groups are fluid and are regularly adapted to ensure that we are always meeting each child's individual needs.
- ▶ Practice Phonics Screening Checks will take place each half term so we can monitor the children's progress – your child's results will be shared with you via ClassDojo.
- ▶ The children's reading books will be organised by their phonics teacher to ensure that the children continue to practice their phonics learning when reading.
- ▶ Teaching staff also regularly listen to the children read within school.
- ▶ Children regularly use digital resources to practice their phonics skills - we provide opportunities for the children to access these resources with teaching staff, in small groups and independently.

# How can I support my child at home?

- ▶ Reading regularly
- ▶ Practicing pseudo/alien words
- ▶ Praise 😊
- ▶ Encouraging your child to use their phonics skills to blend words – not just guess
- ▶ [www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk) provide a range of free phonics activities
- ▶ Use 'Mr Thorne' does phonics to clarify what each grapheme sounds like on YouTube
- ▶ There are now a variety of phonics 'lessons' available via YouTube – the children particularly enjoy sessions by Mr Mc and Geraldine the Giraffe

