

The Bramham/Shadwell Federation is now running *Read Write Inc. Phonics* across Early Years and Year 1. Read, Write Inc is a fun and fast-paced programme which ensures your child is engaged in reading, so that they make good progress from their starting points.

This document provides you with some information about the programme so that you know how to best support your child at home.

## What is Systematic Phonics?

The English language is very complex. Phonics is the method of teaching reading through the identification of sounds and graphemes. All words are made up of sounds e.g. in 'mat' we have the sounds 'm', 'a' 't'. A grapheme is another name for the letters we use to write the sound. We teach phonics so that your children will have the tools to read any word.

In English, we have more than 150 ways to represent 44 sounds, using the 26 letters in the alphabet. This means we have to group letters together to write some sounds e.g. 'igh'. This makes our language one of the most complex in the world! We use the word phoneme to describe single sounds e.g. 's' and 'p', digraph to describe two letters put together to make a sound e.g. 'ai' and 'ee' and we use trigraph to describe when three letters are put together to make a sound, e.g. 'ure' and 'igh'.

## What is Read, Write Inc?

Read, Write Inc. (RWI) phonics is a programme that uses systematic phonics to teach all children to read. We teach the sounds first, in a specific order. We then teach your children to blend those sounds together in order to read words. The children read words in the matched storybooks. Each storybook is carefully matched to the sounds children can already read, setting them up for success. Alongside this children are also exposed to high quality class texts and stories which, once they have learnt to read, they will be able to independently access. Children are also taught how to spell and form their letters correctly by writing words with key phonics sounds.

## Who is Read, Write Inc. for?

It is for all children learning to read. It starts in Reception and runs until the children are confident readers, for most children this is by Year 2. For some children who may need more support with reading, they can continue to access Read, Write Inc. into Key Stage 2.



# Meet Fred



You may hear your child talking about 'Fred the Frog'. He is a frog who can only speak in sounds and we call this **Fred Talk**. For example, Fred wouldn't say 'lunch' he would say 'l-u-n-ch'.

He helps children sound out words so they can read and spell. We encourage children to start their reading by 'Fred Talking' the words, sounding them out and blending them together. We also teach children to 'Fred in their head', which is when they say the sounds in a word in their head before saying it aloud blended. Fred is also used when writing words, children sound out the words they want to write on their 'Fred Fingers' before they commit it to the page.

## What Sounds Will My Child Learn?

Complex Speed Sounds											
Consonant sounds											
f	l	m	n	r	s	v	z	sh	th	ng	
ff	ll	mm	nn	rr	ss	ve	zz	ti		nk	
ph	le	mb	kn	wr	se		s	ci			
					c		se				
					ce						
b	c	d	g	h	j	p	qu	t	w	x	y
bb	k	dd	gg		g	pp		tt	wh		
	ck				ge						ch
	ch				dge						tch
Vowel sounds											
a	e	i	o	u	ay	ee	igh	ow			
	ea				a-e	y	i-e	o-e			
					ai	ea	ie	oa			
						e	i	o			
							y				
oo	oo	ar	or	air	ir	ou	oy	ire	ear	ure	
u-e			oor	are	ur	ow	oi				
ue			ore	er	er						
ew			aw								
			au								

We use this chart to show the most common graphemes for each sound. Phonics makes learning to read easy for children because we start by teaching them just one way of reading and writing every sound.

We teach the sounds in three sets and in each set we teach the children a different way to make each sound, until they know them all confidently.

Once the children know the pure sounds (set 1) we teach them to blend sounds to read words. We also teach children to spell the words they learn to read.

## Which Sounds Are In Each Set?

The sounds below are in the order they are taught from Reception until the end of Year 1. We teach the children two sounds a week in Reception and Year 1. These are reinforced through the use of storybooks, word cards for the children to practice their Fred Talk and little rhymes for each sound.

### Set 1 (Reception)

m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e, l, h, sh, r, j, v, y, w, th, z, ch, qu, x, ng, nk

### Set 2 (Reception and Revised in Year 1)

ay, ee, igh, ow, oo, oo, ar, or, air, ir, ou, oy.

### Set 3 (Year 1)

ea, oi, a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, aw, are, ur, er, ow, ai, oa, ew, ire, ear, ure.

# Does RWI Prepare for the Phonics Screening Check?

Yes fully. RWI will support all children in preparation for the phonics screening check at the end of Year 1. It will also continue to support children who retake the assessment in Year 2.

# How Can I Help At Home?

**Read with your child** at least 3 times a week, focusing on sounding out and blending, recognising known tricky words, also focusing on reading comprehension.

Read a variety of different books to your child.

**Ask school** if you would like any RWI resources or additional help. We are more than happy to send home practice cards if they will help.

Have a look at the below link if you feel you would like further information or support with reading at home:

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents-copy-2/>