



## PHONICS and EARLY READING

### Curriculum Intent

At St Mary's we value the importance of developing a love of reading early on in a child's experience at school. Phonics is one of the building blocks to being a successful reader and writer. We ensure that each child is given the opportunity to develop their reading and writing skills through daily, rigorous teaching.

### HOW we teach phonics

**Revisit and Review-** Children revisit all of the graphemes and high frequency words taught so far. Teachers will adapt these to suit gaps in the children's knowledge.

**Teach-** Children will be taught the new phoneme and matching grapheme for that lesson, including formation of the grapheme.

**Practise-** Children use the new grapheme taught to apply it in different ways such as reading or writing. This section of the lesson will include well known games.

**Apply-** This will be a consolidation of the lesson using the grapheme taught through either reading or writing.

### Curriculum Implementation

We follow the LCP planning for Phonics, which is based on the DFE Letters and Sounds guidance. The LCP planning is taught as a daily lesson to all children in FS2 and KS1 and is regularly assessed to check where the learning gaps are. In FS2 phases 1-4 are taught. In Y1 phases 3 and 4 are recapped before moving onto phase 5. Y2 focus on consolidating phase 5 and learning phase 6. At St Mary's we ensure that each child feels successful in their learning so every reading book that is given to a child will be phonically decodable (We use the Phonics Big Cat Phonic Readers for book bands lilac to turquoise), using only the sounds and high frequency words that they are familiar with. Every child in FS2 has a set of Jolly Phonics tag sounds of the sounds learnt so far to practise at home as well as a set of tag tricky words from the phonics phase they are currently in. This allows practice at home

and supports their fluency by recognising simple words by sight. In Y1 and Y2 the emphasis moves to spellings and learning spellings using the sounds taught and being taught

We ensure that regular reading sessions are held where the children can enjoy books and adults model the importance of reading books for pleasure. In addition, each term we learn a set of poems with actions from The Poetry Basket. This supports vocabulary development as well as improving children's oracy skills.

### **Curriculum impact**

At St Mary's we aim to ensure that children master the necessary sounds, keywords and reading skills to achieve the age-related bench marks (book band colour) at appropriately mapped out time points. The children will develop a love for reading and this will in turn promote their literacy skills and influence their writing later on in life.