

Phonics

At Waterside Primary we know that Phonics is fundamental in allowing children to become life long readers.





Intent - We aim to...



Deliver daily phonics through a high-quality phonics programme and consistently implement it to equip children with the skills they need to decode and become fluent readers.



Provide children with books that are closely matched to their phonic abilities so they can be successful when practising



Support children in catching up quickly by making ongoing assessments and targeting intervention (keep ups).



Ensure the highest number of children possible pass the phonics screening check, with expectations that are aspirational yet achievable.



Implementation - How do we achieve our aims?

We believe that learning to read is key to academic success, and this is supported by research by the EEF (Education Endowment Foundation). Phonics teaching is recognised as an important component in the development of early reading skills, particularly for children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The EEF considers phonics to be one of the most secure, and best-evidenced areas of pedagogy. Studies have shown that an effective SSP programme has a positive overall impact (+5 months). Our reading curriculum (See Reading 3Is) ensures children have opportunities to: Read for Practice, Read for Meaning and Read for Pleasure. High quality phonics teaching provides children with skills to learn how to read (reading for practice), which enhances reading for meaning and makes reading more pleasurable. Therefore phonics is a vital part of our curriculum as it is the building block on which our reading curriculum is based on.



Systematic approach

To allow our children to develop a strong phonic awareness and effective blending and decoding skills, we have chosen to use a DfE validated synthetic phonics programme called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. The programme is a systematic, synthetic approach to teaching phonics, with clear expectations that are laid out term by term from Reception to Year 2.



Access to appropriate books

Integrated in to the programme are high quality reading books published by Harper Collins that match to each grapheme the children learn, this ensures that children apply their phonetic knowledge in context through writing and the use of high-quality reading texts.



Rigorous assessment

assessment tasks, which allow teachers to identify any children that may need extra support.

Year I

Years 2 - 6

Nursery

Reception

Phase 1

Developing speaking & listening skills

Phase 2

PROGRESSION THROUGH THE PROGRAMME

Simple letter sound corresponden ces

Phase 3

Introduction of consonant digraphs & long vowel sounds

Phase 4

Consolidation & reading & spelling words with adjacent consonants

Phase 5

Learn final graphemes
& alternative
pronunciation &
spelling of known
graphemes

Intervention

No daily phonics for all, as children move to whole-class reading. Intervention for those who require it.



<u>Implementation (continued)</u>



In EYFS you will see...



Children learning in a language rich environment



Engaging and accessible free choice activities available daily. These activities encourage children to develop their speaking and listening skills.



Children have access to highquality adult interactions.



Children have the opportunity to engage in challenging adult led tasks to consolidate their learning.



Children have access to a range of high quality books and mark making resources.



Support to catch up

In years 2-6

Although we expect that the majority of children will have successfully completed the Phonics programme by the end of year 1, we recognise that some children may benefit from further instruction and we will ensure that high quality Phonics provision is in place for: Children who did not pass the Year 1/2 Phonics screening check. Children who are new to the country and have no previous experience of English. Children with SEND who are struggling with decoding. These interventions will look different for different children. In Years 2-6 you may see: 1:1 Precision Teaching sessions. 1:1 interventions focused on blending and segmenting. 2 Small group interventions focused on teaching graphemes/blending and segmenting.



In Reception & Year I phonics lessons you will see.. Rigorous practice



Phonics is taught daily and has a regular slot on all class timetables.



The same visual representations & mnemonics are used by all teachers.



Phonics is taught in whole class sessions led by the teacher, who explicitly models strategies & skills.



Children work independently, with peers or in guided groups.



All teachers have access to high quality planning and resources.



Children are encouraged to apply their phonic knowledge in other curriculum areas.



All lessons follow a consistent structure.



Children have access to phonetically decodable books to read at home.



Each class has an engaging phonics area & this is where lessons are taught from.



Teachers ensure that all children make progress through the use of precision teaching and targeted intervention groups.

Children are assessed at the end of Year 1 using a Government Statutory Assessment Tool known as the Phonics Screening Check. This screening check confirms whether a child has learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard and will identify sounds needing further support in Year 2. Children are assessed 1:1 by the Phonics leader, who is a familiar adult to them. Those who do not pass will continue their phonics lessons in Year 2, alongside whole class reading. This allows for them to consolidate and develop their confidence, within a group aimed at their specific ability, ready to retake the screening at the end of Year 2.



Impact - How will we know we have achieved our aims?



Children can decode, segment and blend confidently and by the end of Year 1 are ready to move from learning to read to reading to learn.







Children feel successful in reading and are more willing to read because books are matched to their needs.



By implementing high-quality intervention effectively and promptly, the majority of children become fluent confident readers by the end of KS1.



A high number of children pass the phonics screening check at the end of Year 1.



Our results in....