

Phonics and reading at EYFS and Key Stage 1

Phonics

Phonics-based sessions take place daily within our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. These begin after the first few weeks of the Reception year.

Daily sessions are short (approximately 20 minutes) Children are introduced to new sounds; re-visit and 'over-learn' sounds previously introduced; and spend time learning to blend phonemes automatically and to segment words into associated phonemes. A wide range of resources are used to support learning in this area, including plenty of hands-on, practical resources. In addition, both the **Active Learn Phonics Bug and Espresso** resources provide a backbone to our work to ensure that the 'DFE Letters and Sounds Principles and Practise' is delivered to a high standard.

Reading

In school the teaching of reading links closely to the phonics taught in EYFS and Key Stage 1. Children are: encouraged to develop as enthusiastic and independent readers, introduced to a wide range of literature, given progressively more challenging and demanding texts and encouraged to read and use a wide range of sources of information. Provision for shared, guided and independent reading is made within the school day.

The school reading schemes follow the book bands system and current schemes are **Active Learn Phonics Bug, Bug Club and Oxford Reading Tree Treetops**. Reading activities are regularly set as homework and the Bug Club scheme is available online for children to access. Each child has a reading record which parents are encouraged to fill in each night as they read at home. The school has an excellent library available to all children on a class timetabled basis. Children are encouraged to take books from the library to read for pleasure as much as possible. The school partakes in various reading activities throughout the year, World Book Day, Class Novels, visiting authors, Million Minutes Challenge and Book Fairs to promote reading. Children are encouraged to read at home as much as possible through the aforementioned activities.