

Reception Reading  
and Writing  
Information Booklet



## Letters and Sounds

Letters and sounds is a phonics programme that has been designed to help children become fluent readers by the age of 7. It is made up of 6 phases.

**Nursery** - start on **phase one** with a focus on listening skills and sound making.

**Nursery and Reception** - children will move on to **phase two** where the systematic teaching of phonics begins. The children will learn the sound a letter makes and will be taught the skill of blending and segmenting. The children will be given opportunities to read simple captions. In **phase three** the children will move on to learning sounds represented by two letters such as th, sh, ch.

### Phonics

Phonics is taught through the Jolly Phonics program. This is a kinaesthetic approach to learning sounds and involves the children learning an action and a rhyme that corresponds to each sound. The sounds from phase 2 are taught in a specific order (not alphabetically). This enables children to begin building words as early as possible.

Set 1: s a t i p n

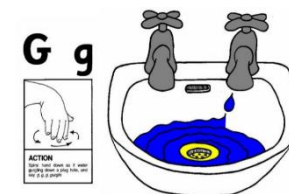
Set 2: c k r e m d

Set 3: g o u l f b

Set 4: ck, e, u, r

Set 5: h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss

Learn the letter sound with an action



Learn how to form the letter

Using different multi-sensory methods, children learn how to form and write the letters using our school writing.



Learn how to blend the sounds

Children are taught how to blend the sounds together to read and write new words.

s a t

Identifying sounds in words (segmenting)

Listening for the sounds in words

tap

Tricky words (Action Words)

Key words are taught through a multi-sensory approach. Tricky words have irregular spellings and are to be learnt as sight words and are not intended to be sounded out.



## Reading

In school we encourage the children to read for enjoyment. This can be through reading and sharing a wide variety of reading material such as;

- Interest (e.g. princesses, Avengers etc)
- Topic books (e.g. cars, animals)
- Enjoyment (e.g. Disney stories, comics, magazines)
- Reading in the environment (signs, shop names)

### Guided reading

The children will read individually or in a small group each week at school. The kind of things we look at are;

- how to handle books correctly
- look for action words
- look at initial sounds
- predict what might happen in the story
- talk about the pictures
- sounding out and blending,
- look for capital letters and full stops

### At home

Your support with reading at home is invaluable and we greatly appreciate your time and hard work. In order for our partnership with you to develop even further, we would love to invite you in to school on a Wednesday afternoon from 2.50 - 3.15. During this session you will be able to enjoy sharing a story with your child. This will be a drop in session and is entirely up to you how often you come.

## Writing

In school we follow a cursive handwriting scheme. Although the children are not expected to write in our 'school writing' straight away in Reception, we provide the children with all of the tools they need to be able to do this throughout the rest of their time at school.

Writing does not mean being able to write a sentence, in Reception the writing process goes through many stages and we carefully plan activities to support each child in their particular area of development.

Fine and Gross motor skills to strengthen muscles in arms and fingers. Activities to support this;

- Dough disco
- Funky fingers
- Paintbrushes, rollers, brushes outside, spray bottles
- Painting with various tools

- *Streamers*

*Rainbow writing is how we practise the cursive letter formation. We learn each letter when the sound is learnt during our letters and sounds sessions.*