

Aims

Children will learn:

- grapheme–phoneme correspondences (that is, the alphabetic code) in a clearly defined, incremental sequence
- synthesise (blend) phonemes (sounds) in order through a word to read it
- to segment words into their constituent phonemes for spelling
- that blending and segmenting are reversible processes

Teaching Phonics

At Worsthorne, we follow the 'Letters and Sounds' progression. Phonics is taught daily in Reception and Year 1 throughout the year.

A phonics lesson follows the sequence:

- **Revisit/ review** previous sounds and/ or tricky/ high frequency words previously taught
- **Teach** new sound or concept where applicable
- **Practice** the new learning to reading or writing words/ sentences
- **Apply** the new learning to read and/or write (dictation of words and sentences)
- Practice basic sight words – 'tricky' words and high frequency words

Multi-sensory activities are used when children are first learning sounds encompassing visual, auditory and kinaesthetic activities involving, for example, physical movement to copy letters shapes and sound, and manipulating magnetic or other solid letters to build words.

All teachers have been trained to teach phonics properly and follow a carefully planned structured approach. Lessons are fast paced, varied and engaging. The idea is that all children are actively involved in phonics lessons.

Knowledge is constantly reviewed and reinforced in each phonic lesson and builds upon previous learning. Pupils are given opportunities to apply what they have learnt in guided reading or when they read aloud to an adult.

Children are continually assessed and those who are falling behind are identified early and catch up is put in place.

Children in Reception are expected to acquire knowledge of Phase 2 and 3 and even start Phase 4. Children in Year 1 will re-cap previous Phase 3 learning to ensure secure knowledge and move onto Phase 4 and 5.

Phonics in other year groups

Children in Year 2 access daily phonics teaching until they are confident with phase 5 of the phonics programme. They are then taught through other methods of teaching, such as grammar

and guided reading. This consolidates Phase 6 of 'Letters and Sounds' teaching. Children who did not pass the Phonic Test in Year 1 are re-entered for the test in Year 2. These children will access

discreet phonic interventions in addition to mainstream teaching to support them in making progress and teaching any potential gaps in learning.

Children moving into Year 3 should have acquired a secure phonic knowledge. For those children who have not, the teachers will continue to build upon previous teaching and learning from year 2 to continue to support those children to close the gap. For these children, phonics catch-up is organised in small group work or 1-1 for the children who are still not secure with all their sounds. This is continually assessed to inform future planning for possible support or interventions until pupils are secure with their phonic knowledge.

Assessment of Phonics

Children in Year 1 are assessed against the statutory phonics test. This tests children's true ability to apply their phonic knowledge, reading words which are real and nonsense. In 2020/2021, the year 1 cohort did not sit the phonics test due to COVID 19 lockdown and so this was completed during the Autumn term of Year 2.

Children are assessed from Reception to Year 4 on Phonics Tracker which is an instant assessment and tracking program for phonics, high frequency words and the phonics screening check. It records whether a child can successfully pronounce the phoneme or word, tracking progress across the English curriculum. Appropriate interventions are put into place for children who are not making expected progress through the phonics programme.

Date of Policy	April 2021
Person Responsible	Mrs C Noon
To be reviewed	Annually
Review Date	April 2022