



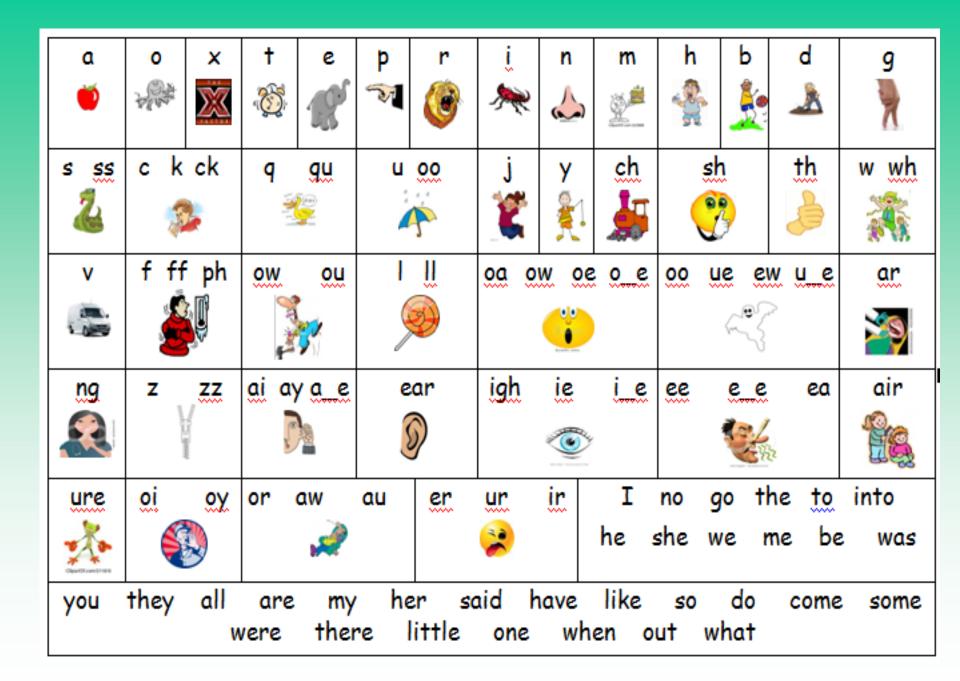


The family of St Agnes loves, learns and grows together as followers of Jesus.



#### What is Phonics?

- Children have 20mins daily discrete phonics lessons;
- Children are taught to read by breaking down words into separate sounds or 'phonemes'. They are then taught how to blend these sounds together to read the whole word;
- ☐ There are around 44 different sounds.



## Phonics language

- Phoneme
- Grapheme
- GPC
- Digraph
- Trigraph
- Oral Blending
- Blending
- Oral Segmenting
- Segmenting

### Glossary of terms

- **Phoneme** The smallest unit of sound. There are approximately 44 phonemes in English (it depends on different accents). Phonemes can be put together to make words.
- **Grapheme** A way of writing down a phoneme. Graphemes can be made up from 1 letter e.g. p, 2 letters e.g. sh, 3 letters e.g. tch or 4 letters e.g ough.
- **GPC** This is short for Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence. Knowing a GPC means being able to match a phoneme to a grapheme and vice versa.
- **Digraph** A grapheme containing two letters that makes just one sound (phoneme).
- **Trigraph** A grapheme containing three letters that makes just one sound (phoneme).
- **Oral Blending** This involves hearing phonemes and being able to merge them together to make a word. Children need to develop this skill before they will be able to blend written words.
- **Blending** This involves looking at a written word, looking at each grapheme and using knowledge of GPCs to work out which phoneme each grapheme represents and then merging these phonemes together to make a word. This is the basis of reading.
- **Oral Segmenting** This is the act hearing a whole word and then splitting it up into the phonemes that make it. Children need to develop this skill before they will be able to segment words to spell them.
- **Segmenting** This involves hearing a word, splitting it up into the phonemes that make it, using knowledge of GPCs to work out which graphemes represent those phonemes and then writing those graphemes down in the right order. This is the basis of spelling.

#### Curriculum Focus

- Focus on children reading widely, for pleasure and meaning.
- Emphasis on accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Presence of phonics as a route to reading.

#### Two Important Skills

• **Blending** - This involves looking at a written word, looking at each grapheme and using knowledge of GPCs to work out which phoneme each grapheme represents and then merging these phonemes together to make a word. This is the basis of reading.

$$c-a-t$$
 cat

• **Segmenting** - This involves hearing a word, splitting it up into the phonemes that make it, using knowledge of GPCs to work out which graphemes represent those phonemes and then writing those graphemes down in the right order. This is the basis of <u>spelling</u>.

$$dog \quad d-o-g$$

•Encourage your child to 'sound out' when reading or writing. Focusing particularly on spotting more unusual sound patterns.

Eg

<u>Digraph</u>- 2 letters making one sound

rain, day, cloud, tie, seat, see, goat, toe, book, balloon, card, fork, author, burn, girl day,

Trigraphs- 3 letters making one sound

night, near, chair, pure, match

Split digraphs- 2 vowels with a consonant in between. Used to be known as the magic el

spine - a-e, e-e, i\_e, o-e, u-e Consonant Clusters- nest, lamp, ink, frog, tree

#### Being a successful reader

Two main skills

**Phonics** – decoding by blending the sounds in words to read them

Language comprehension- understand what the word means within the context it appears

Language development and phonics working together supports reading development.

## Why are the children being screened?

- •Every Year 1 child in the country will be taking the phonics screening check in the same week beginning 6th June 2022.
- •The aim of the check is to ensure that all children are able to read, are well on their way to being fluent and have grasped the basics of decoding.

This 'midpoint check' will ensure that we have a clear understanding of what the children need to learn in year 2.



## When will the screening take place?

- •The screening is a short statutory assessment which will take place throughout the week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The children cannot retake the test at any other time so it is very important your child is in school during this week.
- The check has been designed so that children of all abilities will be able to take part. The DFE defines these phonic tests as 'short lighttouched assessments'

## Examples of words

in at beg

sum



## What will the children do?

- It will take 4 to 9 minutes to complete; although all children are different and they will complete at their own pace.
- They will be asked to 'sound out' a word and blend the sounds together. e.g. d-o-g dog
- $\Box$  The check will consist of 40 words and non-words;
- There are 2 sections with progression from easier words from phases 2-4 to the expected level phase 5;
- □ Nonsense words or Pseudo words are a collection of words used that follow phonic rules that your child has been taught, but they do not mean anything.
- Children will be told if the word is a real or 'alien' word, with a corresponding alien image.

### High expectations

- High standard threshold of 32 out of 40.
- Doesn't take into account children's preferred reading styles and children develop at different stages.
- Fluent readers alter the phonemes to create 'real' words.
   Eg. strom was being read as storm.

#### How will it be administered?

- ☐ Your child's class teacher will conduct the screening check with child;
- ☐ The children will complete the check one to one in a quiet area of the school;
- ☐ The children are used to this and have been practising on a daily basis through phonic lessons, but also half termly since September the children have practised past papers.
- ☐ We are not permitted to indicate to the children at the time whether they have correctly sounded out and / or blended the word.
- ☐ We have to accept their last response

#### And the results..?

- ☐ St Agnes' will be scored against a national standard (threshold yet to be determined by DfE)
- We will inform you of whether they fall below or within this standard, and all children will receive a certificate for taking part.
- ☐ If your child's score falls below the national standard they can re-take the Phonics

  Screening Check in year 2.

#### Let's have a go ...

#### How would you say?

ot vap osk ect gork poax fredge brosh droom crebe



#### Real Words

- waiting
- brighter
- wishing
- reaching
- midnight
- beehive

**Screening check responses:** Please tick the appropriate box for each word. The use of the comment box is optional.

Section 1					
Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment		
vol					
teg					
jat					
ind					
tull					
shog					
foid					
thard					
frem					
cloin					
bulm					
harnd					
quiz					
back					
doom					
short					
freed					
dress					
fund					
think					

Section 2					
Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment		
jair					
clain					
yewn					
tabe					
clisk					
thrand					
strad					
scroy					
nigh					
brown					
main					
rude					
drink					
crowds					
splat					
stripe					
comic					
giving					
pumpkin					
fighters					

-10	rall	CO	rrect

#### **Balanced Instruction Approach**

- Phonic approach
- Whole language approach
- Reading for meaning

Prof Dominic Wyse 'Teaching children to read and make sense of texts is crucial to improving their life chances' (Jan, 2022)

## How can you help?

- Encourage them to use their sounds and actions to find the sound burged they need.
- Revise the Phase 2, 3 & 5 graphemes at home with your child.
- Practice reading the sample real and pseudo words with your child, encouraging them to 'sound out' the word and blend it together.
- Help your child to use their phonic knowledge to 'make up' pseudo words using single letters, digraphs and trigraphs.
- Use online games on www.phonicsplay.co.uk to read real and pseudo words.



www.mrthornedoesphonics









## PhonicsPlay.co.uk

#### Useful Phonic Websites

- Alphablocks lots of videos and games to help with recognising letters and reading http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/alphablocks%C2%A0
- Phonics Games A variety of different interactive games www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/forestPhonics/index.html
- Letters and sounds initial sound game- this game lets your child reveal a sound/letter and then try to find the picture that starts with the same sound.
- BBC Bitesize this game allows your child to listen to the sounds in a word and to
  pick the correct letter. Then they can see what word they have made with all of the
  sounds together. <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyfkng8/articles/zt27y4">www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyfkng8/articles/zt27y4</a>

Phonics play - there are several free games to play that will help your child with their blending and segmenting.

www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase3Menu.htm

## How can you help?

- ·REMEMBER: Phonics is not the only skill needed to become a fluent reader.
- ·Please continue to immerse your child in a love of reading. Ensure you read with your child each night and encourage them to:
- ·Sound out
- ·Re-read to check it makes sense.
- ·Use pictures for clues.
- ·Ask questions about the book.
- · And most importantly ENJOY READING!

# Questions?

