

Phonics

Priority: A rigorous approach to the reading curriculum helps younger children gain phonics knowledge and achieve at least in line with national % in the Year 1 Phonics screening.

Why is this a priority?

Over the last few years our Year 1 Phonics results have been in line with national %. However, in 2019, this dipped to 70%.

We need to ensure that our pupils are able to gain secure phonics knowledge to help them to become fluent and confident readers.

Some children find reading and spelling particularly difficult and we are especially focusing on supporting them.

What impact is this having?

Phonics has always been a high priority and we are ensuring that there is an even greater emphasis on this in all our younger classes and into LKS2.

Regular assessments ensure that interventions are quickly put in place to enable any potential gaps to close.

In Autumn 2020, 87% of pupils reached the expected standard in the Phonics screening.

What are we doing?

High-quality teaching

Phonics has been the focus of the Key Stage 1 Teaching and Learning Project. All Key Stage 1, EYFS and LKS2 staff who have not attended recent phonics training will do so.

Interventions

Our Phonics intervention is personalised and delivered by highly-skilled TAs in dedicated sessions.

Children needing additional support are quickly identified for - and receive - intervention which is effective and enables children to make rapid progress. This has extended into LKS2.

Parental Engagement

Parent workshops equip parents with the knowledge to better support their children with phonics at home. We will be personally inviting some parents to these.

Reading Books

We have increased our reading book provision to ensure that children are able to take home a book which is closely linked to their phonic knowledge and ability.

EYFS

Phonics is high profile across the EYFS and every opportunity is taken to promote and consolidate children's knowledge.