



## Reading, Phonics & Spelling Statement

### Phonics and Early Reading

Currently the children receive daily phonics teaching sessions using the "Letters and Sounds" synthetic phonic approach. This aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills.

This involves

- Learning to recognise graphemes (a grapheme is a letter or a number of letters that represent the sounds in our speech).
- Learning to listen for phonemes (the smallest unit of sound in speech).
- Learning 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/ letter groups.
- Learning how to segment sounds.
- Learning how to blend sounds.

We also provide opportunities for children to listen to and read lively stories featuring words they have learned to sound out. We ask them to show their understanding by answering questions about what they have read.

### Key stage 1

The Letters and Sounds phonic teaching continues in KS1 where children are introduced to more complex aspects of word building to support their development in reading.

Guided Reading happens in KS1 on a daily basis, allowing children the opportunity to engage in reading activities. Discrete comprehension sessions are also taught, on a whole class basis, to develop a range of reading skills.

Towards the end of KS1, children will be introduced to a systematic spelling programme, 'No-Nonsense Spellings' where new spelling rules are learnt every week and practised on a weekly basis in school. Spelling home learning will be sent home with focus words and activities weekly.

## Key stage 2

Reading skills continue to be taught throughout KS2, where children engage in reading and comprehension activities through quality whole class texts. In addition, children participate in discreet weekly reading lessons, focusing on particular skills such as inference and understanding vocabulary.

Children are tested on their comprehension skills throughout school in order to ensure progress against curriculum objectives and preparation for the end of KS2 SATs tests.

The 'No-Nonsense' spelling scheme follows on throughout KS2, ensuring that children continue to learn spellings of age appropriate words in line with the curriculum.