

How we teach Reading and Phonics at Oundle Primary

Early Reading and Phonics



At Oundle Primary School we believe that for all our children to become fluent readers and writers, phonics must be taught through a systematic and structured phonics programme.

We use 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' to plan and provide daily engaging phonics lessons. During our phonics lessons, we teach children that the letters of the alphabet represent a different sound, that these can be used in a variety of combinations and are put together to make words. Your child will learn to recognise all of the different sounds and combinations that they might see when they are reading or writing. Our phonics teaching begins from the very start in Foundation Stage and follows a very specific sequence. As a result, all our children are able to tackle any unfamiliar words that they might discover. We also model these strategies within reading and writing both inside and outside of the phonics lesson and across the curriculum.

Further information about the Phonic scheme progression:

We teach phonics for 30 minutes a day. In Reception, we build from 10-minute lessons, with additional daily oral blending games, to the full-length lesson as quickly as possible. Each Friday, we review the week's teaching to help children become fluent readers.

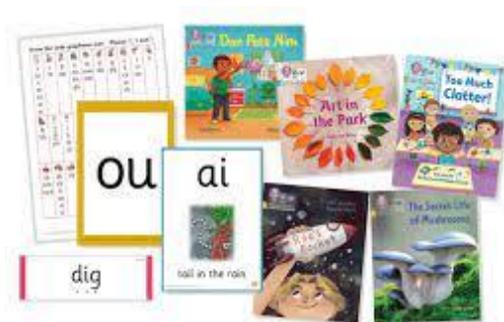
Children make a strong start in Reception: teaching begins in Week 2 of the Autumn term. We follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised expectations of progress. Four new phonemes and their corresponding graphemes

are taught (GPCs) each week and they are then used in the final lesson of the week to review the week's learning. Children will also learn tricky words during these sessions.

During the Autumn and Spring term, Reception learn phase 2 and phase 3 GPCs and then will spend the final term learning phase 4.

Year 1 begin the Autumn term with 3 weeks of revision of phases 2, 3 and 4 before learning phase 5, which will be completed by the end of the year. Year 2 children will begin the year by revisiting phase 5 and other previously taught phases to ensure all children are completely confident with applying these GPCs in both their reading and also their writing. Half termly assessments take place to help inform future teaching and help identify children who have gaps in their phonic knowledge and need additional practice. Daily assessment of learning also takes place within the classroom so staff can quickly identify any children who are in danger of falling behind and provide the appropriate daily 'Keep Up' intervention.

[How our Reading Book Practice Sessions Work:](#)

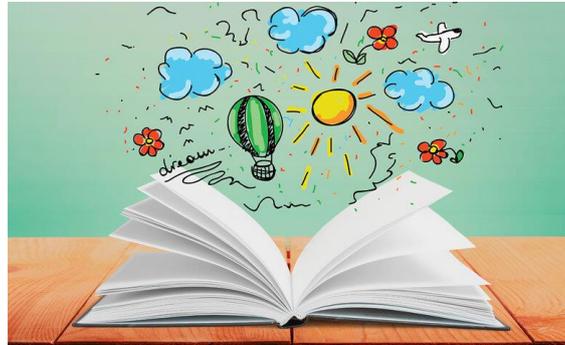


Our readers are equipped with the tools to tackle unfamiliar vocabulary and material. In Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2, children read three times per week in adult guided groups from the 'Big Cats Phonics for Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' scheme. These are all fully decodable books. After the three reads, the book is sent home with your child to build their reading fluency and showcase their developing skills and phonetic knowledge. The three reading practice sessions each have a different focus; decoding, prosody (expression) and comprehension.

Children progress on to our matched Accelerated Reading books as they develop fluency from the end of Year 2 onwards. We encourage quizzing and award prizes termly.

From Year 2 (as the year progresses) to Year 6, we teach and model key reading strategies during our whole class shared reading sessions.

Reading for Pleasure:



Reading for enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status (OECD, 2002).

We always send home a weekly Reading for Pleasure book from the library that you can read to and with your child (who has chosen it independently for interest.) Books are borrowed from the school library with a weekly class slot timetabled.

We are proud of how we support Reading within the school year through:

- A revamped and restocked library
- Reading books within all classrooms
- Daily dedicated Story Time within every class
- New Reading Ambassadors within Y5 and Y6
- Book and Biscuit for younger children
- Book Week in March
- Oundle Town librarian visits
- Weekly visits to the school library
- National Summer Reading Challenge
- Accelerated Reader Awards for KS2
- Lending library for KS1 PP children
- Kid Lit. festival with authorial visits
- Class Reading corners
- School Competition- 'Places we Read'
- Reading workshops for parents
- Weekly phonics home learning sheets YR,Y1,Y2
- Bi annual Book Fair