

Phonics at St Anne's RC primary and Nursery school

At St Anne's we are currently following the 'Letters and sounds' scheme for teaching phonics in school. As detailed in the government document 'Letter and sounds, principles and practices for high quality phonics'. See link below.

Letters and Sounds pdf download

The children work their way through each phase. This begins when the children are in the Nursery. Regular assessments and monitoring enable the children to move through the 'Letters and Sounds' programme. The children receive daily teaching of phonics. They are supported and challenged at the level they are working at.

We also supplement this scheme using the Jolly phonics songs, rhymes and actions to teach children the initial letter sounds in an enjoyable way.

Phonics Screening Test

The checks consist of **40 words and non-words** that your child will be asked to read one-on-one with a teacher. Non-words (or nonsense words, or pseudo words) are a collection of letters that will follow phonics rules your child has been taught, but don't mean anything – your child will need to read these with the correct sounds to show that they understand the phonics rules behind them.

The 40 words and non-words are divided into two sections – one with simple word structures of three or four letters, and one with more complex word structures of five or six letters. The teacher administering the check with your child will give them a few practice words to read first – including some non-words – so they understand more about what they have to do. Each of the non-words is presented with a picture of a monster / alien, as if the word were their name (and so your child doesn't think the word is a mistake because it doesn't make sense!).

You can download the Department for Education's official [Year 1 Phonics screening check past paper from 2012, 2013 and 2014](#) to get an idea of what your child will be asked to do.

Phonics screening websites

Phonics play (Obb and Bob)

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/PicnicOnPluto.html>

Phonics play

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freelIndex.htm>

http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/>

Information about the phonics screening test

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-owl/expert-help/the-year-1-phonics-screening-check>