

PHONICS SCREENING 2017



What do we mean by PHONICS?

Phonics is just one of the range of tools that children use to learn to read and write.

In order to read and write, children need to:

- ▶ Learn letter sounds
 - ▶ Learn to form their letters correctly
 - ▶ Learn to blend sounds together for reading
 - ▶ Learn to identify the sounds in words for writing
 - ▶ Learn to read and spell the tricky high frequency words.
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- ▶ As well as learning the sounds made by individual letters, your child learns how letters combine to make new sounds such as **sh** and **oi**.



What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- ▶ The Government phonics screening check is compulsory for all Primary Schools with Year 1 children. It will take place during June.
- ▶ The check will form part of the assessment, made by your child's teacher, of how your child is progressing with the important skills of reading and writing.
- ▶ Any Year 2 child that did not meet the Government threshold in the previous year will also be tested at this time.
- ▶ Before the end of the Summer term, you will be informed by the school about how your child has performed in the screening check.

How will my child be tested?

- ▶ Your child will sit with a teacher he/she knows well and be asked to read 40 words aloud.
- ▶ Some of these words will be familiar to your child and some will be 'nonsense words' which we call 'ALIEN WORDS'
- ▶ All the words will be words that can be read by 'sounding out'.
- ▶ The 'nonsense words' are included as these will not be familiar to any of the children and therefore no one has an unfair advantage. At Valence we call these alien words and when we learn letter sounds, we have lots of fun.

vap



strome



zigh

Tricky 'real words'

- ▶ Reaching
- ▶ Portrait
- ▶ Tantrum
- ▶ Second
- ▶ Panic
- ▶ Fuel

The children may not know the meaning of these words so can 'think' these are Alien words.

But in the test **alien words** will have a picture of an alien next to them.

How the school is preparing your child.

- ▶ During RWI, whole class phonics and throughout the whole day, children are taught how to recognise and say the sounds.

- ▶ Some sounds are made up with 1,2 or 3 letters.

For example **a, oi, ear**

- ▶ The children practise reading by breaking the word down into its sounds

p a t = pat **sh ou t = shout**

h ear = hear

How YOU can help?

- ▶ At home when you are reading daily with your child point out sounds within some words. (A few examples will be enough)
- ▶ Practise 'speed sounds' found in the front of the RWI books - this is an ideal two minute activity.
- ▶ Play games - using magnetic or foam letters this is great fun during bath time. Play I spy and rhyming songs.
- ▶ Look for sounds when out and about e.g ASDA Kidspace
- ▶ Use 'sound cards' provided in packs or make your own to practise reading sounds and making words.

Please make all the learning FUN!

- ▶ If you would like to find out more about phonics or the phonics screening check, why not visit the following website.

www.education.gov.uk/schools/teachingandlearning/pedagogy/phonics

Help with correct pronunciation of sounds and phonics:

www.ruthmiskin.com/

These are also great websites for children to access at home.

www.ictgames.co.uk/literacy

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

www.bugclub.co.uk

www.teachyourmonstertoread.com

ANY QUESTIONS?

Thank you all for coming.

