

Phonics Statement

As a Federation, we are committed to using Sounds-Write (linguistic phonics) approach to assist children from Nursery to Year 6 learn to read, write and spell independently with accuracy, understanding and confidence.

Phonics is taught in a highly structured programme of daily lessons across EYFS/KS1 following the Sounds-Write programme. For children identified needing additional support in KS1, children participate in intervention activities continuing to follow the Sounds-Write programme.

For children identified needing additional support in KS2, children are taught in differentiated groups and are provided with further opportunity to complete the Sounds-Write Programme. At Chadsmoor Federation it is our aim to provide children with the skills necessary to be able to read confidently and fluently and to be able to access information throughout the curriculum.

The Phonics Programme

Children are given daily opportunities to develop their reading skills. In Nursery, pupils begin to develop their listening skills and to discriminate between sounds, recognising rhythm, rhyme and alliteration. They develop oral blending and segmenting of sounds in words. In Reception and KS1, children learn to read using the Sounds-Write linguistic phonics approach. The following conceptual knowledge is taught:

- Letters are symbols (spellings) that represent sounds.
- A sound may be represented or spelled by 1,2,3 or 4 letter eg **dog** , **street**, **night**, **dough**.
- The same sound may be spelled in more than one way (one sound-different spellings) eg **rain**, **break**, **gate**, **stay**.
- Many spellings can represent more than one sound (one spelling- different sounds) eg **head**, **seat**, **break**.

They develop the skills of blending (combining sounds together to build words), segmenting (breaking up a word into individual sounds) and manipulating sounds to read and spell words correctly. This is carried out daily in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. As children progress in Year 2 the Sounds-Write approach is continued and the rules and concepts of spelling are introduced. Key Stage 2 pupils who require further support in phonics, continue with dedicated phonics sessions.

Phonics Assessment

Children's progress is continually reviewed and they are formally assessed at three assessment points during the year.

The national Phonics screening check is performed in June of Year 1. Last year, 2021, the screening test was cancelled due to school closures. The purpose of the screening check is to confirm that all children have learned phonic decoding to an age-appropriate standard. The children who did not meet the required standard for the check in Year 1, enter again in Year 2 with additional support. As children enter KS2, provision is made for those children still requiring phonic support.