



Sandy Lane Primary School Phonics Curriculum

Mission	Taking PRIDE in all we do					
Values	PRIDE	Positive	Resilient	Inclusive	Determined	Enquiring
	School Rules	Ready	Respectful	Safe		
Curriculum Intent - To Promote the 8 Values						



Phonics Intent

Our intentions in Phonics are for children to:

- Have a **positive** approach to learning phonics and applying this to all areas of the curriculum
- Take **responsibility** for their own learning and challenge themselves to learn and improve
- **Be inclusive in their approach to**
- Be **determined** when learning new and challenging skills, and finding solutions to problems.
- Be **enquiring** individuals, who ask meaningful questions of themselves, others and the world around them.

At Sandy Lane, we use Unlocking Letters and Sounds to provide a systematic and high-quality approach to teaching phonics, ensuring that every child becomes a confident and fluent reader by the end of Key Stage 1. We aim to equip our pupils with the necessary phonics skills to decode words accurately and develop their reading comprehension abilities.

Phonics Implementation

In Reception and Key Stage 1, whole class, daily phonics lessons are engaging and paced appropriately to meet the needs of all learners. We adopt a systematic and synthetic phonics approach, utilizing high-quality resources, to teach phonics explicitly and sequentially. Lessons are structured in to five distinct sections – revisit, teach, practise, apply and revise. Lessons follow a structured plan, gradually introducing new phonemes, teaching grapheme-phoneme correspondences, and consolidating learning through regular practice.



Sandy Lane Primary School Phonics Curriculum

Eight Features of Effective Practice

- 1 Consistency
- 2 Progression and pace
- 3 Linking phonics to reading and writing
- 4 Direct whole-class teaching
- 5 Fast, repeated practice
- 6 Use of fully decodable books
- 7 Early identification of children in danger of falling behind
- 8 Effective keep-up support

We embed phonics learning within a broader language-rich environment, encouraging children to apply their phonics knowledge in meaningful contexts. We provide opportunities for children to practice phonics skills through speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities across the curriculum.

We believe that assessment is integral to effective Phonics teaching. Our school uses a range of formative and summative assessments to monitor progress and identify areas of development. Regular assessments, including phonics screening checks for Year 1 pupils, enable us to track individual progress, identify gaps in learning, and provide targeted intervention where necessary. We promptly address any difficulties, providing additional support to ensure all children achieve the expected standards in Phonics.

Phonics Impact

As a result of our outstanding Phonics provision, our children leave Sandy Lane as confident, independent readers and writers. They have a secure understanding of phonemes and graphemes and can confidently decode and blend words, applying their knowledge of phonics in their reading and writing across the curriculum. Our pupils develop a love for reading and have the skills to access a wide range of texts, enabling them to succeed academically and become lifelong learners.

Through our focused implementation, we aim to achieve exceptional outcomes in Phonics attainment and progress. Our robust assessment data demonstrates that the majority of our pupils reach or exceed the expected level of phonics knowledge and skills for their age group.