



Phonics

INTENT

At St. Jude's School, Phonics is taught so that it is accessible to all: every child knows more, remembers more and understands more. Phonics is a key skill that supports the development of early reading skills. We combine quality phonic instruction with exposure to a range of texts and the promotion of reading for pleasure to provide our pupils with the skills they need to have a successful start to their lives as readers.

We intend for our pupils to be able to:

- Recognise, say and write all phonemes within each phase of Letters and Sounds;
- Use their phonic knowledge to blend and segment phonetically decodable words;
- Use their phonic knowledge to attempt to read and write more complex words;
- Read easily, fluently and with good understanding, age and ability appropriate texts;
- Develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information;
- Write clearly, accurately and coherently, using phonic knowledge.

IMPLEMENTATION

We deliver this by:

- Using a progressive scheme of work (Rocket Phonics) that teaches specific and relevant vocabulary; a scheme of work where pupils learn the 44 common sounds in the English language and are taught how to blend these sounds to decode (read) words;
- Ensuring staff are equipped with the necessary professional development to deliver our curriculum; a cohesive and consistent approach to teaching Phonics, where daily sessions follow the same structure: 1. Revisit/Review > 2. Teach > 3. Practise > 4. Apply;
- Delivering daily Phonics sessions in Early Years and Key Stage 1, whereby the pupils learn new phonemes, improve their ability to segment and blend sounds, and their ability to apply this knowledge into their reading and writing;
- Providing fully decodable books to match each stage of children's learning;
- Organising small and focussed group teaching to target children's specific next steps;
- Using a rigorous assessment system that informs teaching;
- Ensuring regular reading opportunities and story times for all children in Early Years and Key Stage 1;
- Administering a phonics-screening check for Year 1 in the summer term;

- Having a subject leader who monitors teaching and learning to improve standards and outcomes;
- Providing a curriculum that plans for and meets the needs of all pupils.

IMPACT

Through implementing the above:

- Pupils will be confident in their phonic knowledge;
- Pupils will be able to blend and segment words confidently;
- Pupils pass the Phonics Screening Check;
- Disadvantaged pupils will perform as well as their peers.
- Pupils learn to love reading through fun but challenging phonic activities;
- A culture develops where a secure knowledge of phonic sounds enables reading for pleasure as part of our reading curriculum.



Rocket Phonics