Phonics Curriculum

Our Phonics curriculum follows the Read, Write, Inc scheme. This provides detailed planning, a clear sequence, and strong texts to support both teaching and learning. RWI provide a vast number of resources, robust professional development and training, and support with grouping, development and data analysis.

Intent

Phonics is a method of teaching children how to read and write by developing their understanding of the relationship between sounds and letters. It enables children to hear, identify and manipulate the different sounds within words and understand how these sounds are represented in written language. We use the Read Write Inc phonics scheme here at Lyngford Park Primary School. We want our children to become accurate decoders who can use their phonics knowledge to blend sounds and read words independently.

Through this scheme, our children learn the sounds represented by individual letters and groups of letters and understanding how these sounds combine. Children develop the skills needed to decode words when reading, and segment words when spelling. We aim to ensure that all of our children have a secure understanding of phonics and are able to recognise and read unfamiliar words confidently and accurately. As children develop greater security in their phonics knowledge, our ambition is for them to move from conscious decoding towards increasingly automatic and fluent word reading.

Tricky words (common exception words) are taught explicitly alongside the systematic phonics programme. We teach them with a focus on developing children's automatic recognition, accurate pronunciation and spelling. Through regular practice and repetition, children develop the confidence and fluency to recognise and use tricky words accurately when reading and writing.

Implementation

The Read, Write Inc scheme is taught to all children who require the teaching of phonics to elevate their reading skills.

In Nursery, children begin phonics sessions in the summer term to support their transition into Reception. This is focusing on the Set 1 single letter sounds.

In Reception, children are taught phonics daily as a whole class for the first 6 weeks to learn the first 15 single letter sounds from Set 1. Once the children are confident with these sounds, they are then taught to orally blend those sounds together. Teaching then progresses into reading the sounds they have been taught in consonant, vowel, consonant (cvc) words. Our phonics scheme then progresses into learning the rest of the Set 1 sounds and begins Set 2. Children are grouped accordingly dependent on their sound knowledge and fluency speed.

In Year 1 and Year 2, children receive Read Write Inc. (RWI) phonics teaching at least four times each week, following the progression and structure of the RWI programme. Children are grouped accordingly to match their phonics sound knowledge, word reading accuracy and reading fluency, ensuring that teaching is closely matched to their current stage of development.

Our RWI sessions follow the programme's consistent approach to teaching speed sounds, blending, word reading, storybook reading and spelling. Teachers and support staff are trained regularly and all use agreed routines, language and resources. Children are regularly assessed to identify gaps in their sound knowledge and reading fluency, with groups adapted accordingly to ensure that teaching remains targeted and enables children to make strong progress. We prioritise targeted support for children who are not yet working at the expected standard through individual 1:1 tutoring. These sessions are delivered by highly skilled practitioners who adapt each session to meet the specific needs of the child, addressing gaps in knowledge and providing targeted opportunities to develop their phonics knowledge and reading fluency.

Impact

Children are assessed every half term and re-grouped. Attainment in phonics is measured using ongoing assessment throughout the Read, Write, Inc programme and nationally using the Phonics Screening Check at the end of Year 1.

Year 1 PSC results 2022-2026

	2022	**2023**	**2024**	**2025**	**2026**
Lyngford Park	82%	86%	95%	91%	85%
National average	75%	79%	80%	80%	82% (prediction)

We recognise that high-quality phonics teaching provides the essential foundations for reading, enabling children to develop the accuracy, fluency and confidence required to access guided reading and the wider curriculum. Our aim is for all children to become confident, motivated and increasingly independent readers, fostering a genuine love of reading that continues throughout KS2 and beyond, into later life.