

Phonics

At St. Bede's we know how important it is for parents and teachers to work together to give your child the best start. Reading together at home is one of the most effective and important ways in which you can help your child. Children should be encouraged to enjoy sharing books and read independently, as well as reading with an adult. This not only supports children's progression in reading but leads to them seeing reading as a source of pleasure and interest.

Here at St. Bede's we follow the Letters and Sounds programme. The six phase teaching programme focuses on high quality phonics work. We also use Jolly Phonics resources to support our phonics teaching.

The Phases

Phase One - Nursery: The aim of Phase One aims to develop children's listening and speaking skills as preparation for learning to read and spell with phonics. Children explore and experiment with sounds and become familiar with rhyme, rhythm and alliteration. Parents can play a vital role in helping their children develop these skills by encouraging them to listen carefully and talk extensively about what they hear, see and do.

Phase Two – Reception (up to 6 weeks): The purpose of this phase is to teach at least 19 letters, and move children from oral blending and segmentation to blending and segmenting with letters. By the end of the phase children should be able to read some VC and CVC words and spell them using magnetic letters or by writing on paper or on whiteboards. During the phase they will be introduced to reading two-syllable words and simple captions.

Letter progression (one set per week)

Set 1: s a t p

Set 2: i n m d

Set 3: g o c k

Set 4: ck e u r

Set 5: h b f ff

Set 6: l ll ss

The children will learn to **read** the tricky words; I, no, go, to, the, into

Phase Three – Reception (up to 12 weeks): The purpose of this phase is to teach another 25 graphemes, most of them comprising two letters (e.g. oa), so they children can represent each of about 42 phonemes by a grapheme. Children will also continue to practise CVC blending and segmentation in this phase and will apply their knowledge of blending and segmenting to reading and spelling simple two-syllable words and captions. They will learn letter names during this phase, learn to read some more tricky words and also begin to learn to spell some of these words.

Set 7: j v w x

Set 8: y z zz qu

Graphemes: ch sh th ng ai ee igh oa oo ar or ur ow oi ear air ure er

The children will learn to **read** the tricky words; he, she, we, me, be, was, my, you, they, her, all

The children will learn to **spell** the tricky words; the, no, go, to, I, into

Phase Four – Reception (4-6 weeks): The purpose of this phase is to consolidate children's knowledge of graphemes in reading and spelling words containing adjacent consonants and polysyllabic words.

The children will learn to **read** the tricky words; said, so, have, like, some, come, were, there, little, one, do, when, out, what.

The children will learn to **spell** the tricky words; he, she, we, me, be, was, you, they, all, are, my, her