

How do we teach Phonics at Wellington Primary Academy?

We follow the Department for Education and Skills programme Letters and Sounds. It aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting in Reception, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by the end of Year Two. The classes have a 20 minute phonic session every day. We teach the children the skills they need to read words (blend) and the skills they need to spell them (segment).

There are six phonic phases:

Phase	Phonic Knowledge and Skills
<i>Phase One</i> (Nursery/Reception)	Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending and segmenting.
<i>Phase Two</i> (Reception) up to 6 weeks	Learning 19 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each. Blending sounds together to make words. Segmenting words into their separate sounds. Beginning to read simple captions.
<i>Phase Three</i> (Reception) up to 12 weeks	The remaining 7 letters of the alphabet, one sound for each. Graphemes such as ch, oo, th representing the remaining phonemes not covered by single letters. Reading captions, sentences and questions. On completion of this phase, children will have learnt the "simple code", i.e. one grapheme for each phoneme in the English language.
<i>Phase Four</i> (Reception and Year One) 4 to 6 weeks	No new grapheme-phoneme correspondences are taught in this phase. Children learn to blend and segment longer words with adjacent consonants, e.g. swim, clap, jump.
<i>Phase Five</i> (Throughout Year 1)	Now we move on to the "complex code". Children learn more graphemes for the phonemes which they already know, plus different ways of pronouncing the graphemes they already know.
<i>Phase Six</i> (Throughout Year 2 and beyond)	Working on spelling, including prefixes and suffixes, doubling and dropping letters etc.

Phonics Glossary

In the English language there are 26 letters, which represent 44 phonemes (sounds). A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word, it may be represented by 1,2,3 or 4 letters. There are many technical terms which are used in phonics. The table below offers an explanation of the most commonly used phonics words.

Term	Meaning
<i>Consonant</i>	b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,y,z
<i>Vowel</i>	a,e,i,o,u
<i>CVC</i>	A consonant-vowel-consonant word, such as cat , pin or top . You may also come across the abbreviation CCVC for consonant-consonant-vowel-consonant words such as clap and from . Also CVCC for words such as mask and belt .
<i>Phoneme</i>	Phonemes are the smallest unit of speech-sounds which make up a word. If you change a phoneme in a word, you would change its meaning. For example, there are three phonemes in the word sit /s/-i/-t/. If you change the phoneme /s/ for /f/, you have a new word, fit . If you change the phoneme /t/ in fit for a /sh/, you have a new word, fish - /f/-i/-sh/.
<i>Consonant clusters</i>	Separate phonemes e.g. br,st,nk
<i>Grapheme</i>	Graphemes are the written representation of sounds.
<i>Digraph</i>	Digraphs are 2 letters representing 1 phoneme e.g. th, ai. There are 2 types of digraph – consonant e.g. sh, th, ch and vowel ai,ea, ie etc.
<i>Split vowel digraph</i>	Split vowel digraph is the use of ‘magic e’ – the vowels are split by a consonant making the vowel sound say its name not sound e.g. h <u>i</u> d <u>e</u>
<i>Trigraph</i>	3 letters representing 1 phoneme e.g. igh

How do we teach Reading at Wellington Primary Academy?

Your child’s reading experience is much more than the reading book which comes home from school.

A child’s ‘reading journey’ begins with ‘learning to read’ and moves on into ‘reading to learn’.

Reading is happening all the time in a classroom and in school. Children are practising and using their 'reading' constantly across all subjects.

We use the **Oxford Reading Tree** scheme. It is a structured and levelled set of books written specifically to ensure that your child can take steady and progressive steps towards reading success from Reception to Year Six.

What websites can I access to help my child with their learning at home?

Key Stage One:

All Subject Areas:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/>

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/>

Reading

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/kids-barn/biff-chip-kipper/character-library>

Phonics - Phases 2-6

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

User ID: wellington01

Password: Wellington1

Spelling Year Two

www.spellingplay.co.uk

User ID: wpa123

Password: wellies

Key Stage Two:

All areas:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/zbr9wmn>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/>

<http://primarygamesarena.com/Key-Stage-2>

Spelling:

<http://www.spellingcity.com/>