

Phonics in EYFS & KS1

at Nunnery Wood Primary School



Which scheme do we use?

At Nunnery Wood Primary School we use 'Jolly Phonics', an affiliated scheme, to deliver high quality, interactive phonics teaching in EYFS and KS1.

Jolly Phonics introduces children to 44 phonemes commonly found in the English language using songs and actions to accompany each grapheme. Combining the letter/s (graphemes) with a catchy song and action really helps children to remember each letter sound (phoneme) quickly whilst having lots of fun!

Jolly Phonics continuously builds upon the skills and knowledge of previous learning, enabling children to confidently apply their learning into their reading and writing. There are no big leaps in learning - all children have time to practise and rapidly expand their ability to read and write words within every phonics session. We assess the children's progress regularly and provide targeted provisions where needed to support children in developing and growing their phonics knowledge.



Progression

Jolly Phonics is divided into 3 Steps, each step then divided further into groups or units.

Step 1

Step 1 consists of 7 groups, where children are taught an initial 36 phonemes (sounds) and graphemes (letters to represent the sounds). This is first introduced in EYFS during the Autumn and Spring Term. During the Summer term, children recap and revisit Step 1 to consolidate their learning.

Step 2

Step 2 consists of 13 units. Units 1 to 6 are covered during the Spring and Summer term in EYFS, but then recapped during the first term in Year 1. Thereafter, children are then taught and exposed to unit 7 to 13 during the Autumn term. It is in this Step that the children are exposed to alternate graphemes for previously taught phonemes. For example, the following graphemes making the long a vowel sound *ai, ay, a-e*.

Step 1

Step 3 also consists of 13 units, and these are covered during the Spring Term. Over the duration of the Summer Term, children will recap all previously taught phonemes (sounds) and graphemes (letter representations).



Progression

EYFS

Autumn Term

Begins Wk4

Group 1 – 5

Blue Tricky Words

Spring Term

Revisit and revise G1-5 + Blue TWs.

Yellow Tricky Words

Summer Term

Group 6-7

Alternatives, Double consonants

Split digraphs

Red Tricky Words

Year 1

Autumn Term

Revisit and revise

G1-7

Begin Step 2

Spring Term

Begin Step 3

Summer Term

Revisit and revise

Step 2 + 3

Year 2

Autumn Term

Revisit Step 2+3

(gaps)

Jolly Grammar

Spelling Patterns

Spring Term

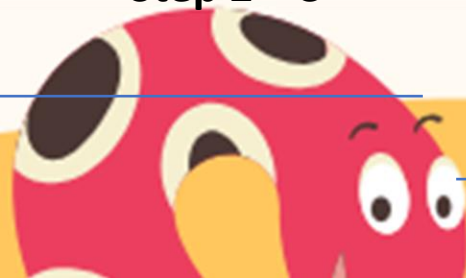
Jolly Grammar

Spelling Patterns

Summer Term

Jolly Grammar

Spelling Patterns



How and when do we teach Phonics?

Children receive daily teaching of phonics, which is accessed through a 30-minute whole class session. Every session is fast paced, engaging and accessible for all children. Lessons are upbeat and quick to maintain the children's attention, focus and engagement, which in turn enable them to make the best progress each session.



All sessions follow the same structure, across EYFS and KS1. Children begin by revisiting and revising previous learning through recall and reading exercises. Following this, the focus for the session is introduced – where children are taught a new phoneme (sound) and/or grapheme (letter/s to represent the sound). The children then access a variety of different reading activities which encourage them to identify the focus phoneme/grapheme within words and accurately apply the skills taught to segment and blend to read. In the latter part of the session, children are taught how to correctly form the letters needed to record the focus phoneme/grapheme and then use this to segment and spell words. Each session finishes with a ‘tricky word’ reading and spelling focus, – these are words that do not follow typical spelling rules.

Ways to help at home

There are many ways you can help and support your child throughout their phonics journey at home.

- Regular reading is invaluable in supporting, developing and growing your child's phonics knowledge. Make sure it is when your child is fully focused and engaged (bed time is nice for story sharing but not always best for reading!).
- Make sure it is always short and snappy, fun and comfortable. Little and often is best, make it into a game... and always ensure you're sat comfortably to thoroughly enjoy it.
- Play phonics and reading games. Simple games such as bingo, snap, or even a phoneme/grapheme hunt around the house.
- Using taught letters and sounds to decodable words. E.g. tan, ant, an, etc.
- Emphasising the first sound within a word. E.g. c-c-c-cat. t-t-t-tap

