



Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 29th April 2026

Why are the children being screened?

- Every Year 1 child in the country will be taking the phonics screening check in June.
- The aim of the check is designed to confirm whether children have learnt sufficient phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.

What will the children be expected to do?

- The check is very similar to tasks the children already complete during phonics lessons.
- Children will be asked to 'sound out' a word and blend the sounds together e.g. d-o-g - dog



- The focus of the check is to see which sounds the children know and therefore the children will be asked to read made up 'nonsense' words or alien words.

THIS IS NOT A READING TEST



Examples of words:

in

at

beg

sum

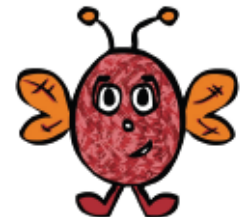
ot



vap



osk



ect



Examples of words:

Section 2

trunk

groups

straw

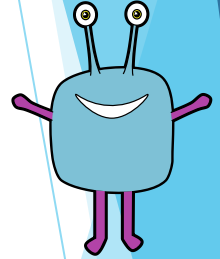
scribe

Section 2

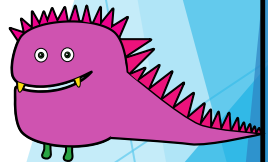
clend



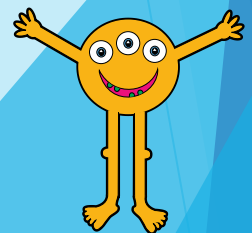
braits



scrug



splue



When will the screening take place?

- The screening will take place throughout the week beginning **Monday 8th June 2026**. The children cannot retake the test at any other time, so it is very important your child is in school during this week
- The check has been designed so that children of all abilities will be able to take part.



Who will complete the check?

- The children will complete the check one at a time in a quiet area of the school.
- Mrs Barnes will conduct all of the screening checks with the children.
- The screening usually takes 5-10 mins. There is no set time limit, breaks can be taken and children will complete the check at their own pace.



Reporting of results

Results will be communicated at the end of the year with your child's school report. It will confirm whether your child has met the required threshold.

Children who have not met the threshold will be required to retake the screening in Year 2.

How can you help?

- Encourage your child to 'sound out' when reading or writing. Focusing particularly on spotting more unusual sound patterns.

Digraph- 2 letters making one sound

cow law

Trigraphs- 3 letters making one sound

nigh treasure

Split digraphs- 2 vowels with a consonant in-between. Used to be known as the magic e!

shine - i_e

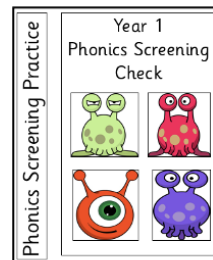
How can you help?

- Allow your child to point out the different phonemes in words. Use their finger as a sound button (particularly in alien words)
- Encourage children to sound out words and blend everywhere e.g. Shop names, street names etc.
- Children can practise their phonics by playing games online. The children particularly like 'Buried Treasure'



Dear Parent (s)/carers,

Please scan these **QR codes** with any smart device to view phonics screening practice materials. Please note that this resource has been created using **SassoonCRInfant font**, if it is not available on your device you will see these resources in Arial font.



How can you help?

REMEMBER: Phonics is not the only thing needed to become a fluent reader.

- Please continue to read with your child each night and encourage them to: sound out and blend. Using their finger as a sound button.
- Re-read to check it makes sense and aid your child's fluency.
- Use pictures for clues.
- Ask questions about the book.
- Ask their opinion about what they liked/disliked?

Questions?

