

Phonics in the Early Years at St Columba's

EYFS Coverage

Literacy development involves encouraging children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. Children must be given access to a wide range of reading materials (books, poems, and other written materials) to ignite their interest.

Reading: children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some common irregular words. They demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.

Writing: children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt correctly and others are phonetically plausible.

How will we provide this?

All children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have daily phonics sessions of 20 minutes in ability groups

- This is supported by phonics based routines, activities and games throughout the EY's provision
- We follow the government recommended scheme called "Letters and Sounds"
- It is a 6 phase teaching programme that all children work through during their time in EYFS and KS1 moving onto a programme for spelling, punctuation and grammar as they move towards KS2
- We teach phonics using a range of games, songs, rhymes, activities and resources.

- We try to keep it as fun and interactive as possible .All the teachers and teaching assistants in school (R-Yr. 2) work with a group of children who are working at a similar level; this means that children from different classes may be taught together.
- In Nursery the children will cover Phase 1. This is the building blocks needed for future phonics learning. The children don't have to master all these strands before they start learning the sounds and letters but they are essential for future success. It covers things such as the ability to listen, talk about and hear the difference between sounds in the environment, instrumental sounds and voice sounds .It also covers alliteration, rhyme, rhythm and oral blending & segmenting In the Summer Term the expectation will be that children will be working within phase 2 in readiness for Reception.

By the end of EYFS children should:

- Read and understand simple sentences.
- Use phonic knowledge to decode common words and read them aloud accurately
- Confidently read by sight the Stage 2 and 3 common exception words
- Use phonic knowledge to write words in a way which matches how the sounds are said.
- Write some irregular common words.

By the end of Year 1 children should:

- Apply phonic knowledge and skill as the prime approach to reading unfamiliar words that are not completely decodable;
- Read many frequently-encountered words automatically;
- Read phonically decodable three-syllable words;
- Read a range of age-appropriate texts fluently;
- Demonstrate understanding of age-appropriate texts.
- Read decodable words that end –s, –es, -ing, -ed, -er, -est
- Say the correct sound to grapheme for all the 40+ phonemes up to Stage 5.

By the end of Year 2 children should

- Read accurately most words of two or more syllables.
- Read most words containing common suffixes.

Materials

Suggested Phonics Activities.



These are just a few examples of phonics linked activities small groups, individuals or indeed whole classes can do. [Busybusylearning](https://www.busybusylearning.com/) has a whole series with creative phonics ideas that is worth reading.

- Stomp out the sounds
- Play hide the cards
- [Letters and sounds website](https://www.lettersandsounds.co.uk/) games
- [Phonics bingo](#)
- Playing Phonics hangman