

Phonics

What is phonics?

Phonics is a way of teaching children how to read and write. It helps children hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language.

Written language can be compared to a code, so knowing the sounds of individual letters and how those letters sound when they're combined will help children decode words as they read.

Understanding phonics will also help children know which letters to use when they are writing words.

Phonics involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. For example, the sound k can be spelled as c, k, ck or ch.

Teaching children to blend the sounds of letters together helps them decode unfamiliar or unknown words by sounding them out. For example, when a child is taught the sounds for the letters t, p, a and s, they can start to build up the words: "tap", "taps", "pat", "pats" and "sat".

In our school, we do this by following Little Wandle. A systematic synthetic phonics programme which provides a framework for teaching children how to read.

How do we teach phonics?

At Lutton St Nicholas Primary Academy, we use Little Wandle as our chosen programme for delivering phonics. The aim of phonics is to give a clear structure to learning the skills necessary to become able, fluent readers. The programme doesn't only help pupils to decode and blend letter sounds, it helps children to develop their speed and intonation when reading as well as helping pupils to learn to spell the different graphemes they will learn.

For an introduction to the early sounds our learners are taught, please see the videos below

Phase 2 sounds (Reception) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZtjFlvA fs>

Phase 3 sounds (Reception) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvOuc7cWXxc>

Reading at Lutton St Nicholas Primary Academy

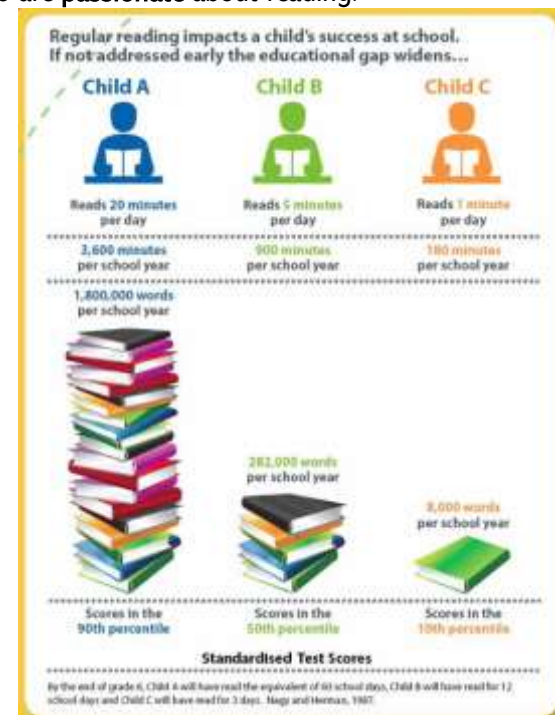
At our school, we aim for all our children to become **fluent, confident** readers who are **passionate** about reading.

Children who read regularly, or are read to regularly, have the opportunity explore imaginary worlds and develop their vocabulary. More importantly, reading will give your child the tools to become independent life-long learners.

We can achieve this together through:

- **Little Wandle Phonics** - a programme to help to your child read at school.
- Encouraging children to develop a love of books by reading to them daily, at home and at school.
- Giving children access to a wide range of books at school and at home.

When will by child learn phonics?



We start by teaching phonics to the children in the reception class. This means that they learn how to 'read' the sounds in words and how those sounds can be written down. We will keep you up to date with which sounds your child is learning through Tapestry and provide updates and advice through events such as our school's phonics workshops.