

Phonics Screening Check What does it mean?

12th November 2024

About today

Today's session is designed to give you more information about the check itself, examples of words used in previous checks (they will not be used again!), how the results will be used and activities to help your children.

What is phonics?

Phonics is the method of teaching children to read and write the English language.

It enables people to use individual sounds to construct words.

grapheme-phoneme correspondences
+
segmenting and blending sounds

Terminology

Phoneme

A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word.

Grapheme

A grapheme is the written representation of a phoneme, so a letter or group of letters representing one sound.

Digraph

A digraph is when you have two letters together to make one sound, eg; **ch**ip, **sh**op, **tr**ee, **tr**ain

Trigraph

A trigraph is when you have three letters together to make one sound, eg; **night**, **hedg**e, **hair**

Split Vowel Digraph

A split vowel digraph is when two vowels making one sound are separated by a consonant eg; **ma**k**e**, **h**o**m**e, **k**i**t**e

Blending and Segmenting

Blending is the skill of teaching children to read a word.

We blend the individual sounds together to read a word.

c-a-t cat

sh-i-p ship

Segmenting is the skill of teaching children to write a word.

We segment the sounds in a word to write it accurately.

Pure sounds

Basic code taught in Reception.
One way of representing each
of the 44 sounds

s ss	a	t	p	j	n
m	d	g	o	c k ck	e
u	r	h	b	f ff	l ll
j	v	w	x	y	z zz
qu (queen)	ng (ring)	ch (cheese)	sh (shell)	th (feather)	th (thumb)
ai (snail)	ee (bee)	igh (light)	oa (goat)	oo (moon)	oo (book)
ar (car)	or (fork)	ur (surf)	ow (cow)	oi (coin)	ear (ear)
air (chair)	ure (manure)	er (hammer)			

Advanced code taught in Year 1. Alternative ways of representing each of the 44 sounds which equates to 200!

tea
 be
 baby
 babies
 key
 taxi
 receive
 Pete

ay (tray)	ou (house)	ie (pie)	ea (sea)	oy (boy)	ir (bird)
ue (glue)	ue (value)	aw (saw)	wh (wheel)	ph (phone)	ew (screw)
ew (stew)	oe (toes)	au (saucer)	ey (key)	a_e (cake)	e_e (centi pede)
i_e (dice)	o_e (bone)	u_e (flute)	u_e (cube)	zh (treasure)	

Split vowel digraph

Two vowels that have been split by a consonant but still make one sound.

i_e

like

kite

a_e

make

cake

Sight vocabulary

Many children are able to read certain words without segmenting them.

This is a fantastic skill and should be encouraged.

If your child is ever unsure, always encourage them to look carefully at the word and blend it.

strom and storm

Phonics Screening Check

- ▶ It is a statutory assessment introduced in 2012 for all year 1 pupils.
- ▶ It is designed to help us gauge how well your child is progressing in phonics. It will help to identify whether your child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.
- ▶ It will take place w/c 9th June 2025 – **all children need to be in school.**
- ▶ It consists of 40 words – 20 real words and 20 pseudo (nonsense) words.
- ▶ The check will be carried out by Mrs Payne in an environment that is familiar to the children.
- ▶ Previous years pass rates have been 32 out of 40.
- ▶ Children who do not pass in year 1 will retake the check in year 2.

Example papers

Some words from previous papers include...

Real Words	Pseudo Words
day	chom
scribe	thazz
newt	jound
phone	blurst
pumpkin	spron

Last years words were ...

nop	sint	bew	curl
yim	doilt	clune	doze
zeg	shin	baup	plank
ild	fang	cheve	shrimp
jick	sort	blenk	split
sheb	chill	froast	stripe
deeg	fled	scrup	relay
quish	speck	sprace	ending
brop	ramp	bar	dolphin
sleen	corns	sneak	crackers

How will the results from the screening check be used?

- You will be informed of how your child has done in the screening check towards the end of the summer term with your child's school report.
- The screening check will identify children who have phonic skills below expectations for the end of Year 1.
- The children who do not pass will then be able to retake the assessment in Year 2.
- It is necessary to note here that the check is not an indicator of how well children read, simply how well they decode words. Therefore there may be some children who read at, or above, the expected standard that do not pass this check. There may also be children who pass the screening who are reading below the expected standard.

Home support techniques

- ▶ Read regularly with your child, at least 3 times a week. Read to them and let them read to you.
- ▶ Enjoy story time and let your child see you enjoy reading.
- ▶ Visits libraries and bookshops.
- ▶ Read signs in your day to day activities.
- ▶ Note patterns in books, particularly long vowel phonemes. Talk about how the letter sounds change.
- ▶ Use the fastest finger sheets to help with faster recall of the individual sounds.

Home support techniques

- ▶ Read a pseudo word every day! They are easy to make up and can be different lengths.
- ▶ Let your child make up pseudo words for you!
- ▶ Play phonics games online:
- ▶ <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/PictureMatch.html> - Picture Match
- ▶ <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/PicnicOnPluto.html> - Picnic on Pluto
- ▶ <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/BuriedTreasure2.html> - Buried Treasure
- ▶ <http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html> - Tell a T-rex / Phoneme Pop

www.twinkl.co.uk

- Great website for games and activities to print, particularly if your child is finding a particular sound tricky.

Treasure Words

Fake Words

Word bank containing words like: *quack, quiz, quick, quiet, quit, shell, shop, ship, rich, check, much, chop, chin, liquid, quack, quick, quit, quiz, shark, shell, ship, shop, shark, shell, ship, shop, shark, shell, ship, shop, shark, shell, ship, shop*

ink saving Eco

 dar	 zort
 sair	 kear

qu,ch,sh,th,ng Read and Race

Instructions:
 1 Roll the die.
 2 Move your token the number you rolled on.
 3 Who will reach first?

Phase 3 Roll and Read - oa

	coat	load	goat	loaf	road
	soap	oak	toad	foal	boat
	load	loaf	soap	toad	boat
	foal	oak	road	goat	coat
	load	oak	loaf	foal	toad

Name the Alien

Use the graphemes below to create names for the aliens!

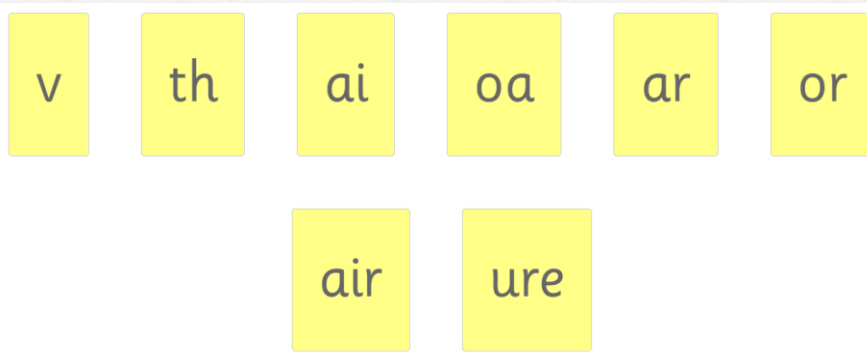
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

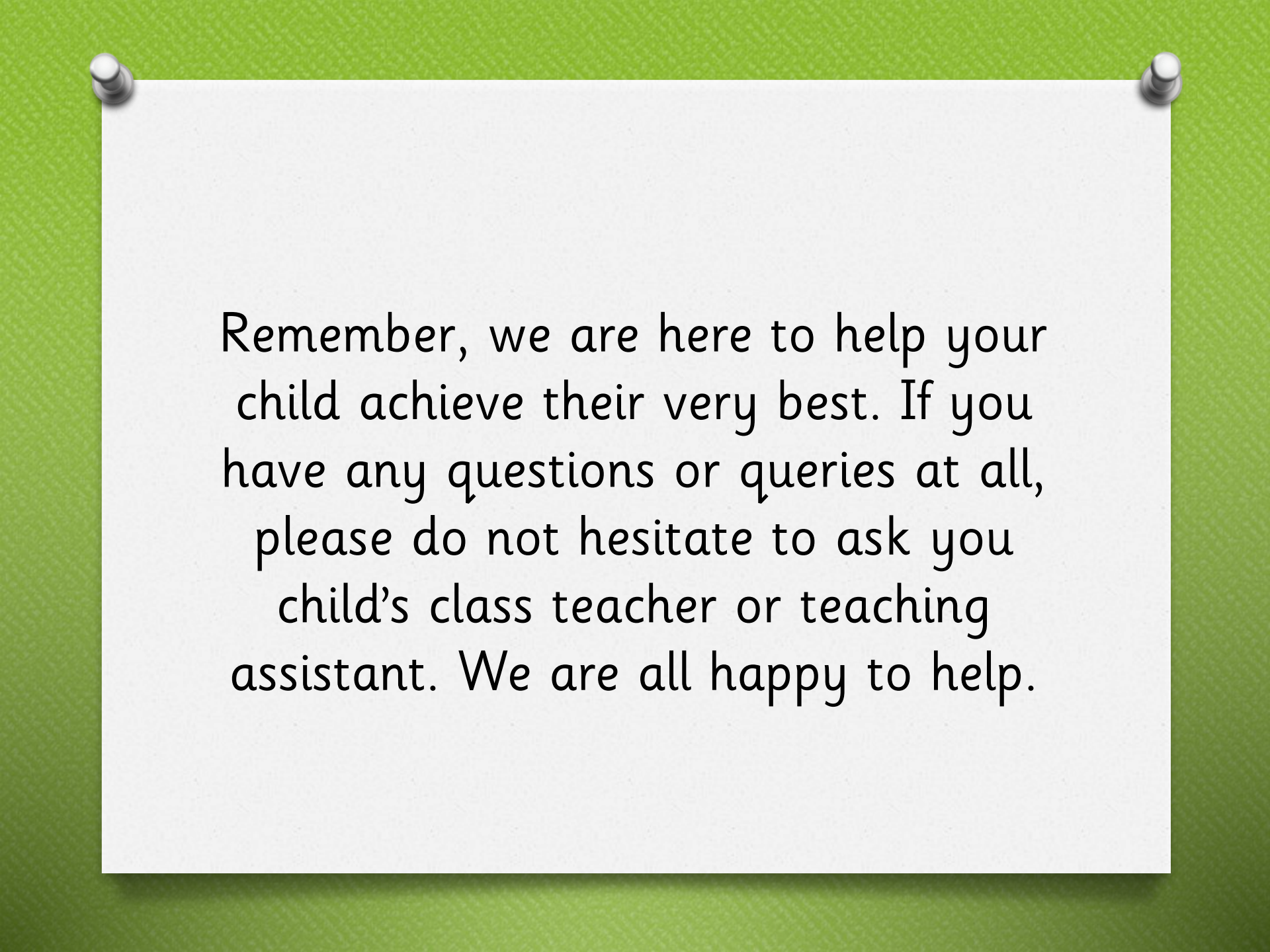
Graphemes: j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng ai ee igh oa oo

Phonics Tracker

We assess children regularly throughout the year, both on graphemes and previous phonics screening papers.

We will be sending home updates and revision tools – please use these, they will be helpful to support with any gaps.





Remember, we are here to help your child achieve their very best. If you have any questions or queries at all, please do not hesitate to ask you child's class teacher or teaching assistant. We are all happy to help.