



# Phonics Meeting for Parents

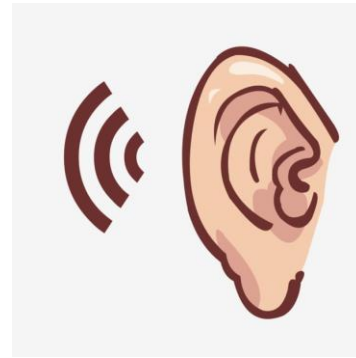
# What is phonics?

It is the first strategy that we teach children to help them to read and write.

It is the link between written letters and the sounds that they make.

- ▶ Identifying sounds in spoken words.
- ▶ Recognising the common spellings of each phoneme.
- ▶ Blending phonemes into words for reading.
- ▶ Segmenting words into phonemes for spelling.

# Some Definitions



## **A phoneme**

- ▶ This is the smallest unit of sound in a word.

c a t  
d i sh

**You hear a phoneme**

# A grapheme



These are the letters that represent the phoneme. It is how we write the sound.

*Children need to practise recognising the grapheme and saying the phoneme that it represents.*

The grapheme could be 1 letter, 2 letters or more!

**t**

**ai**

**igh**

**You see a grapheme**

- ▶ A phoneme can be represented in more than one way (c**a**t, k**e**nnel, **ch**oir).
- ▶ The same grapheme may represent more than one phoneme (m**e**, m**e**t).

# Phonics screening

- ▶ Children usually complete the phonics screening at the end of Year One.
- ▶ If the children do not achieve the required result, they will need to take the test again in Year Two.

# What is the phonics screening check?

- ▶ The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether children have learnt sufficient phonics decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.



# What happens during the test?

- ▶ Each child will sit one to one with a teacher.
- ▶ The test contains 40 words and the child will read each word aloud.
- ▶ The test contains 20 real words and 20 nonsense ('alien') words.



# Nonsense words

- ▶ The nonsense words will be shown with a picture of an alien which shows the children that they will not have seen this word before.
- ▶ These words are included because they will be new to all of the children.

v a p

g l o g

b l ar d

# Example

tay



sloam



zued



meve



# Example

high

feast

goal

shape

# How can you help at home?

- ▶ Make sure the children are pronouncing the sounds correctly. The sounds do not have an /uh/ sound at the end e.g. **sss** not suh
- ▶ Play sound and listening games with your child. (Phonicsplay website has some good games)
- ▶ Read daily with your child- both reading aloud and listening to stories
- ▶ Correct letter formation
- ▶ Encourage and praise
- ▶ Just ask if you are unsure 😊

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light to dark, creating a modern and dynamic feel. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, some with thin white outlines, set against a white background.

**Thank you for your ongoing  
support.**