

Phonics (Sounds Write)

Once your child starts reception, they will begin formal, daily phonics teaching using a Department for Education (DfE) approved systematic, synthetic phonics approach – Sounds Write. Your child will be taught sounds starting with the initial code. This will teach your child which grapheme (letter) represents each sound. After formal teaching of each sound(s), your child will be provided with a decodable reader book for the week.

Your child will continue to be taught phonics through year one and two. Following this, they will typically progress onto Accelerated Reader unless they need some extra support and intervention. If this is the case, you will be kept fully informed and updated on your child's progress.

We have heavily invested in Sounds Write and Dandelion phonetically matched decodable readers. These decodable reading books only include sounds that your child has already been taught. Please read this book repeatedly with your child across the week so they have every opportunity to practise both decoding these sounds and blending and segmenting (breaking the word into sounds and then putting it back together).

Home reading support for parents and carers

To help develop your own knowledge, understanding and skills in how best to support your child's early reading at home, please register for the following FREE Sounds Write-approved course targeted specifically for parents and carers in the link below.

You'll also find the Sounds Write Initial Code App (only available on iPads) which your child can engage with independently at home to improve their reading and spelling skills.

<https://sounds-write.co.uk/support-for-parents-and-carers/>

What are the expectations around reading in reception, years one and two?

Because this is the first year of your child's formal reading journey, we invest very heavily in developing your child's fluency. Pupils are all taught through a mastery approach accessing phonics every single day. All pupils are read with three times a week in reception and any pupils causing concern are read with five times a week.

Reading continues to be a very big focus as we progress into Key Stage One (years one and two). We continue to provide daily phonics lessons for all pupils and read with all pupils once a week at least. Pupils who are finding phonics

challenging and are falling behind are given keep-up to catch-up interventions, pre and post teaching and regularly assessed to identify gaps in their code knowledge. These gaps are then directly taught by a fully Sounds Write-trained HLTA. On top of these interventions, these pupils are read with a minimum of three times weekly.

If you have any concerns about your child's reading, the best thing to do is to speak to us as soon as you have them. Your child's class teacher will gladly answer any concerns, questions or queries you may have. Alternatively, you can email our reading and English lead Mr J. Thompson at j.thompson@collierleyprimary.co.uk

As a school, we expect parents/carers to read a minimum of three times a week at home. However, keep an eye out on our Facebook page for children who are celebrated for going above and beyond in their reading and reading much, much more!

The more you read with you child, the more fluent they will become. It's also a lovely bonding opportunity for you.

If you're having any struggles following the training video provided earlier in this document, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Reading disadvantaged

If, for a variety of reasons, children are unable to meet our minimum home reading expectations then extra provisions are put in place to ensure these children are read with in school as per advice of The Reading Framework. However, we ensure this is kept to an absolute minimum by engaging with parents and supporting parents in their home-reading confidence. This includes advice, support and parent sessions.