

INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

At Brompton- Westbrook Primary School we teach your children phonics. Our approach to learning phonics in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 is through using letters and sounds. We use the Read, Write Inc approach to teaching phonics.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYxnmilvCWc&list=PLRKcpLXEIYB10GICiuAh4xiKZ58ixhZJv>

We aim to build pupils' speaking and listening skills, as well as prepare pupils to learn to read, by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. We hope that your child will become a fluent reader by age seven.

The national phonics screening check was introduced in 2012 to all Year 1 pupils. It is a short, statutory assessment to ensure that children are making sufficient progress in the phonics skills to read words and are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.

The check isn't about passing or failing but checking appropriate progress is being made. If children do not reach the required standard, then they will receive additional support to enable them to make progress. Children progress at different speeds so not reaching the threshold score does not always mean there is a serious problem. Your child will re-sit the check the following summer term. We are proud of the results that we have achieved.

The check consists of a list of 40 words, half real words and half nonsense words. The nonsense words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien. This not only makes the check a bit more fun, but provides the children with a context for the nonsense word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.

The assessment will be age-appropriate, with children sitting with a teacher and reading one-to-one. It should be an enjoyable activity for children which and will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. We have to inform parents towards the end of the summer term in Year 1 of their child's results. We will let you know in our end of year summary report how your child did and if there is anything that you need to do to help your child improve.

In school we are continually checking your children's phonic development within our approach to the assessment of reading. This screening forms part of our overall assessment procedure. However, there are a number of things that parents can do to support early reading skill development.

You can help by making time for your child to read school books to you regularly – encourage them by pointing to the words and ask them about the story they are reading. Children can visit the library or read books online.

Use phonics play www.phonicsplay.co.uk . This is a website which is packed with interactive phonics games to help children to learn to hear sounds and blend sounds. We use this in school and some aspects of it are free to use at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ulv63W9StE>

Please arrange to speak to you child's class teacher if you have any further questions.