

# Phonics at Carleton St Hilda's

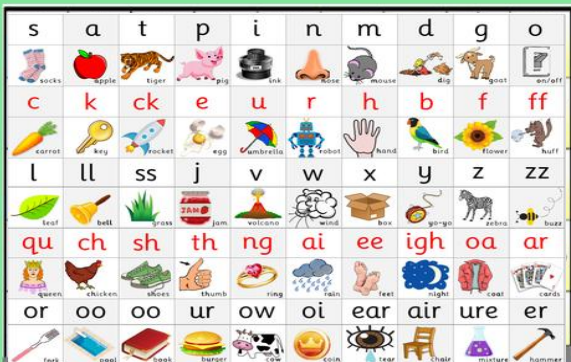
At Carleton St Hilda's, we know how important it is for parents and teachers to work together to give your child the best start.



## How can you help?

- Listen to your child read every day.
- Encourage your child to talk about books and read independently.
- Read books beyond their reading capability to your child.

Phonics is a method of teaching to read through the matching a single letter or a group of letters (graphemes) to their corresponding sounds (phonemes). Breaking down new words into these graphemes enables your child to read them.



## Blending

**When reading** children must be able to smoothly blend sounds together. This can be more difficult to do with longer words.

- Encourage your child to say the whole word smoothly after they have said each phoneme (sound)
- Children need to read the sound they have learnt. This can be one sound made up of two letters (digraphs) such as 'ee' or 'oi' or three letters (trigraphs) such as 'h-ear' or 'p-air'.

## Phonics learning and assessment in school.

- We follow the **Red Rose Letters and Sounds** programme.
- In **Reception**, children typically work through Phases 2 and 3. Phase 4 starts towards the end of Reception and is carried on into Year 1.
- In **Year 1**, the children sit the government's **Phonics Screening Check**. This is usually in June.



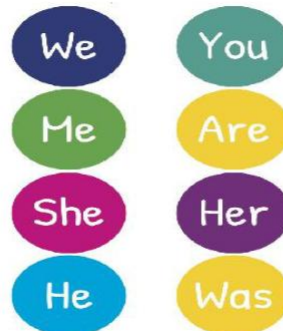
## Segmenting

To spell the word your child will segment it into its sounds for example 'ran' 'r-a-n'.

- Help your child to hear the first sounds in words by playing games like I spy.
- Next try listening for the end sounds and then the middle sounds. Middle sounds are hardest to hear.
- Begin with simple three letters words, e.g. tap or hot. Then build it up.
- Take care with digraphs, the word fish, for example, has four letters but only three sounds f-i-sh.
- Rhyming games and poems also help tune the ears to the sounds in words.
- Encourage children to think about the word, say it several times and then write it.

### Tricky words

Tricky words are words that cannot be 'sounded-out' but need to be learnt from memory. They do not fit into usual spelling patterns.



### High Frequency Words

These are words that occur frequently in much of the written materials young children read and need to write.

a	have	no
at	he	play
an	here	said
and	in	see
am	I	she
are	is	so

## Useful websites

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/phonics-videos/> – The 'How to pronounce pure sounds' and 'How to blend sounds to read words' videos are particularly helpful.

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk) – Some free games to practise skills such as blending.

[www.phonicsbloom.com](http://www.phonicsbloom.com) – Free games that can also be used on a tablet. Phase 1 (Pre School phonics) games also available on here, to help aid with school preparation.