



EASTRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



PHONICS



Phonics is a way of teaching children to read and spell quickly and skilfully. They are taught how to:

- Recognise the sound that each individual letter makes;
- Identify the sounds that different combinations of letters make – such as ‘sh’ or ‘oo’;
- Blend these sounds together from left to right to make a word;
- Segment words in order to spell them – i.e. c a t = cat

At Eastrington School we believe that the early learning of reading and spelling skills is fundamental to becoming successful readers and writers. We aim to build children’s speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read and spell by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. We set out a detailed systematic programme for teaching phonic skills to the children when they start school in the Foundation Stage with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by the age of seven.

Phonics is taught during a daily 20 minute interactive, quick paced lesson where pupils are grouped according to their existing phonic knowledge to enable a more personalised approach to learning. As from June 2012, children at the end of Year 1 take part in a statutory phonics screening check to identify which children are on track with their phonetic skills. Once pupils have completed the phonics teaching programme alternative support for spelling materials are put in place to support pupils throughout Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Key Stage 2).

When your child starts school, a phonics workshop is available for parents to gain an insight into how phonics is taught. As a school, we value the role of the parent in a child’s education and hugely encourage parents to listen to and read to their children at home.