

# Phonics Screening Check

The Phonics Screening Check is an assessment that is taken by all children in Year 1.

During the check, children will be asked to read a list of 40 words to check their grapheme recognition and decoding skills. The list of 40 words is made up of real words and non-words (alien words).



## Why are alien words used in the Phonics Screening Check?

We are checking that children are reading words using their decoding skills rather than memorising words. Children will sound talk the words and blend these together to read.

These words will be highlighted on the assessment with a picture of an alien so that the children do not try and make it a real word.



## There are two sections in the Phonics Screening Check...

### Section one

This section includes 20 words with graphemes from earlier phases of Phonics.



### Section two

This section includes 20 words containing phase 5 graphemes and split digraphs.



**The Phonics Screening Check will be administrated week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> June. It is very important that your child is at school during this week.**

**The check will be administrated by our Year 1 teachers.**

### What is the pass score?

The score is not announced until the check has been administered.  
For several years, the pass score has remained at 32/40.

### What happens if my child does not pass the check?

If your child has not achieved the pass score at the end of Year 1, children will then get another chance in the Summer Term of Year 2.

Year 2 teachers will use the results to inform future Phonics planning to support children in achieving the pass score.

### How can I help my child prepare for the Phonics Screening Check?

- Listen to/read with your child every day.
- Play fun and practical games where children are asked to read real words and alien words.
- Play online Phonics games
- Encourage your child to read words when out of the house, e.g. on signs, bus stops etc.
- When listening to your child read, encourage them to segment the sounds and blend the sounds together to read the word.

### Home Learning

- A list of twelve words will be sent home every Friday for your child to practise reading. Please encourage your child to cut these word cards out and create flashcards.
- The words in the list will be chosen from Phonics lessons that have been taught during that week. Some of these words will be 'alien words'.
- When supporting your child to read the words, please remind them to use their Phonics skills. E.g. can they spot a digraph/trigraph?

play	tray
made	game
sea	treat
fever	secret
sea	comic
vol	jair

If you have any questions about the Phonics Screening check then please do not hesitate to ask. Thank you.

Miss Lounds, Mrs Lewis, Mrs Norman, Miss Scrivener