



PHONICS

Our Intent Statement:

At Great Finborough Church Primary we recognise that it is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and when they enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together.

Skilled word reading, which the children are taught through our chosen Phonics programme, is embedded within this culture of love for reading and story telling.

Our chosen phonics programme, Jolly Phonics, teaches the letter sounds in a fun, multisensory way. Children learn how to use the letter sounds to read and write words during their reception year.

Once children reach Key Stage 1, the phonics skills they have developed support their progression to our chosen grammar programme, Jolly Grammar. In this the structure of the language is taught, including parts of speech, spelling, and punctuation, to support children in learning how to express themselves accurately and well.

Our Implementation Statement:

Phonics is taught daily to all children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 for a minimum of 30 minutes daily. Phonics is taught at letter-sound, word, sentence and text levels. The Teaching & Learning Cycle (revisit and review, teach, practise, apply) is followed in all lessons and children are supported to keep up, so they do not need to catch up. Lessons are taught in smaller groups to ensure the children are suitably challenged.

Core phonics provision is distinguished from phonics enrichment activities. Enrichment activities during our play and explore sessions are planned to reinforce the learning during our phonics sessions in an active and/or creative way.

The children have reading books matched to their current phonics level and they are encouraged to read regularly at home.

Children have regular reading sessions with an adult in school and we ensure the children are regularly practising and applying their phonics knowledge. Teachers regularly assess the children's phonics knowledge using phonics assessments, reading milestones and Reading Early Learning Goals (in EYFS). These regular assessments inform planning and allow teachers to identify any gaps in learning.

Our Impact Statement:

Through the teaching of systematic phonics, our aim is for children to become confident, fluent readers by the end of Key Stage 1, allowing them to focus on developing their fluency and comprehension as they move through the school. Attainment in reading is measured using the statutory assessments at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2. These results are measured against the reading attainment of children nationally. Attainment in phonics is measured by the Phonics Screening Test at the end of Year 1. However, we firmly believe that reading is the key to all learning and so the impact of our reading curriculum goes beyond the results of the statutory assessments. We are proud to be readers and story tellers at Great Finborough Church Primary.