

Phonics screening check

What is the phonics screening check?

All **year 1** pupils in England take the phonics screening check. This takes place in school, with our Early Reading Leader, Mrs Dwan.

The check is made up of 40 words, and usually lasts 5 to 10 minutes. Some words are real words and others are nonsense, or 'alien', words that help to show if pupils can work out how to decode words they haven't seen before.

The check helps us to see:

- › How pupils are progressing in phonics
- › Where to provide additional teaching and support

The check may not be appropriate for some pupils. We'll let you know if we think this is the case for your child.

When will it be happening?

Year 1 and the Y2 children who did not meet the threshold last year. will do the phonics screening check in the week commencing 9th June 2025. This is the date that all schools across the country, will be doing the check too.

Do we get to know the results?

We have to report the results to Sefton. We'll also let you know the results by the end of the summer term.

If your Y1 child does not meet the expected standard in the check, they'll get to have another go next year. It's normally nothing to worry about.

The results don't count towards any league tables.

Do we need to prepare at home?

Your child is being taught phonics at school and links to Read Write Inc virtual classrooms, have been sent out over the past 12 months, to help with supporting early reading.

You can always help your child by:

- › Reading to and with them
 - › Playing sound and reading games
 - › Teaching them new words, and showing them how they're written
 - › Attend the parent/carer Phonics Screening Check meeting
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Contact the school

If you have any questions or want to talk further about the phonics screening check, please contact Mrs Dwan