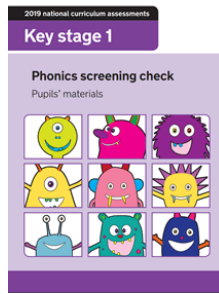




Archbishop Wake
CE Primary School

Aim high, believe; Fly high, achieve.



Year One Phonics Check: Information for Parents/Carers

Children in Angelfish and Seahorses will participate in the Year One Phonics Check this week (from Tuesday 7th June). The children have already completed many previous assessments using the same format and will be very familiar with the process. We also track their progress in phonics regularly, so the check will not tell us any new information, but will confirm where they are working at in relation to the national standard.

What is the phonics screening check?

The phonics screening check was introduced in 2012 to all Year 1 pupils. It is a short, statutory assessment to ensure that children are making sufficient progress in the phonics skills required to read words. It helps to confirm that they are on track to become fluent readers who can enjoy reading for pleasure and for learning.

The check is not about passing or failing, but that checking appropriate progress has been made. Children progress at different speeds so not reaching the threshold score does not necessarily mean there is a serious issue. In our school we already identify individual children who require extra support and provide early intervention support, however we must comply with the statutory requirement.

How will the phonics screening be administered?

Each child is taken through the screening check by their teacher on a 1:1 basis. This will be in a quiet area and there is not a time limit, so each child can read at their own pace.

What happens during the check?

The check contains 40 words. Each child sits one to one and reads each word aloud to their teacher. The list of words is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words).

Why do they read pseudo words (Nonsense words)?

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of a friendly alien. This provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

Will we be told about our child's results?

The results of the check will be issued with your child's end of year report.

What happens if my child does not reach the threshold for the phonics screening check?

Any child that does not reach the standard threshold will continue to have additional support in phonics and will complete the screening check again when they are in Year 2.

If you have any questions about the screening check, please contact your child's class teacher.