

Phonics

In EYFS and Year 1 at Archbishop Wake we teach the skill of reading and spelling through our daily phonics program, Sounds-Write. Children in these year groups take part in 30 minute lessons daily, where they learn how to read and build words of increasing complexity. Children who may need additional support then have additional keep up sessions.

The four key concepts children need to learn are:

1. letters are symbols that represent sounds
2. sounds can be spelled using 1, 2, 3 or 4 letters
3. the same sound can be spelled in different ways
4. the same spelling can represent different sounds

What do lessons look like?

The structure and simplicity of Sounds-Write makes it a programme accessible to all learners and helps them to make good progress with their reading and spelling. We explicitly teach the children the 3 skills of:

- blending (putting sounds together to read a word)
- segmenting (breaking a word into sounds to spell)
- phoneme manipulation (sound swapping).

If you would like to find out more about Sounds-Write and how you can support your child at home there is a fantastic online course for parents run by the Sounds-Write founder, John Walker. This can be found at <https://www.udemy.com/help-your-child-to-read-andwrite/learn/v4/overview>