

Phonics and Reading Statement

Walton and Lees Hill CE Primary School 2023/2024

At WLHPS, we tailor our reading curriculum to give children a love of reading. Through formal phonics lessons, guided reading sessions, English lessons plus other informal reading opportunities such as book talk and share and book-nics, a love of reading is woven through many of the experiences that we offer.

Phonics is taught to all children from Nursery to Year Two and we use a highly structured, systematic programme of daily lessons. The discrete daily phonics lesson is supplemented by phonic activities and games – both practical and online. Each taught session provides children with opportunities to revisit previous learning, be taught new skills, practise skills and apply what they have learned, within the Bug Club Phonics scheme for children in Reception and Year One and a tailored phase one plan for children in Nursery.

Sessions follow the structure of introduction, revision, lesson, and wrap-up. Children develop skills through shared, guided, and independent reading and writing, in school and at home.

From Year Two, children continue to develop phonic skills within spelling, punctuation and grammar lessons, as well as through shared, guided and independent reading and writing.

Children's progress in phonics is assessed throughout sessions and during application in reading and writing. Children are formally assessed following the Bug Club assessment schedule, and this information is used to inform planning.

The statutory Phonics Screening Check is administered in the June of Year One.

We use Accelerated Reader (AR) to support Children's development of reading. AR is an online assessment and support tool to develop reading throughout the school. This tool assesses children's reading skills and provides staff and children with individual targets.

Children and KS1 and KS2 have access to levelled books; most books are 'real' books. Children are encouraged to make choices about the texts that they read, children then read the texts at home and at school. Once a child has read a book, they complete an online quiz to assess their understanding of what they have read. Feedback on achievements encourages the children to see their own progress and work towards their targets.

Reading assessments are completed by all children at the end of each half term. Children complete an online assessment, either the Early Reader or Star Reader assessment, and this information is used to inform planning and to set new targets.

Children who are not yet ready to access Accelerated Reader read reading scheme Bug Club books, matched to their phonics level of learning.