



Little Wandle comes to Deanery – A new phonics and reading scheme

From September 2021, Deanery will be following the Little Wandle Letters and sounds programme for phonics and reading.

About the programme – Little Wandle phonics programme

- Phonics is taught daily in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.
- Each lesson for phonics lasts between 10 and 30 minutes depending on the age and stage of the children being taught.
- Learning is reinforced and applied in context throughout the day.
- All Teachers and Teaching assistants across the school have been fully trained.
- There is a consistent approach to the teaching of reading across the school, including the pronunciation of phonemes (the letter sounds) and the introduction of new formation phrases.
- All children in the class are taught the same graphemes (the sounds written down) with children who need additional support having reinforced teaching on the same day.
- Children blend the sounds to read and segment to spell.
- Termly assessments (every six weeks) are used to chart children's progress and identify gaps in knowledge.
- Repeated practise occurs in all aspects of the lesson.
- Children are taught overt blending, but fluent blending in their heads is the ultimate goal.
- Both spelling and reading are practised daily.
- Teachers engage children with energy and enthusiasm with extensive interaction in all lessons with lots of generous praise and encouragement, building on and celebrating success.
- Phonic sound mats and grow the code posters are in every classroom from Reception to Year 6.

About the programme - Little Wandle reading books

- Children begin practising reading in matched decodable books as soon as they can blend. Children will need to know the first set of sounds before being issued with a reading book to bring home.
- Assessments are used to match children's secure phonics knowledge to decodable books at 90% fluency.
- Children read with an adult in reading practise sessions three times a week.

- **Reading book** - The same book that children are reading in school is then sent home for children to practise fluent reading with their parents. This would be at 95% fluency. This is to celebrate their developing reading skills. Children should therefore be able to confidently read the book independently to an adult.
- **Sharing book** - In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

How can I help my child at home?

1. Practise the sounds with them at home, listen to them read enthusiastically when they bring home a decodable reading book and enjoy their sharing book with them.
2. Come along to our Little Wandle parents information sessions – look out for the dates in the next newsletter!
3. Follow the parent's link – examples pages are below which include videos on how to say the sounds, the sequence they are taught and formation phrases as well as how we teach tricky words and blending.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 2



Phase 3 sounds taught in Reception Spring 1



Autumn 1 sounds

Download a guide to how children are taught to say their sounds in Reception Autumn 1

[Download PDF](#)



A quick guide to alien words



How we teach tricky words



How we teach blending

We have taken delivery of the reading books and children in Year 1 and Year 2 will be issued with their new reading books from w/b 20th September once phonic assessments have been carried out in order to match the book with their phonics phase.

This is an exciting and new development at Deanery and replaces both Jolly phonics and the Oxford Reading Tree schemes. We are all looking forward to seeing you at the parents sessions and sharing this new journey with you.

Mrs Cullen

Deputy Head Teacher / EYFS and Reading Leader