



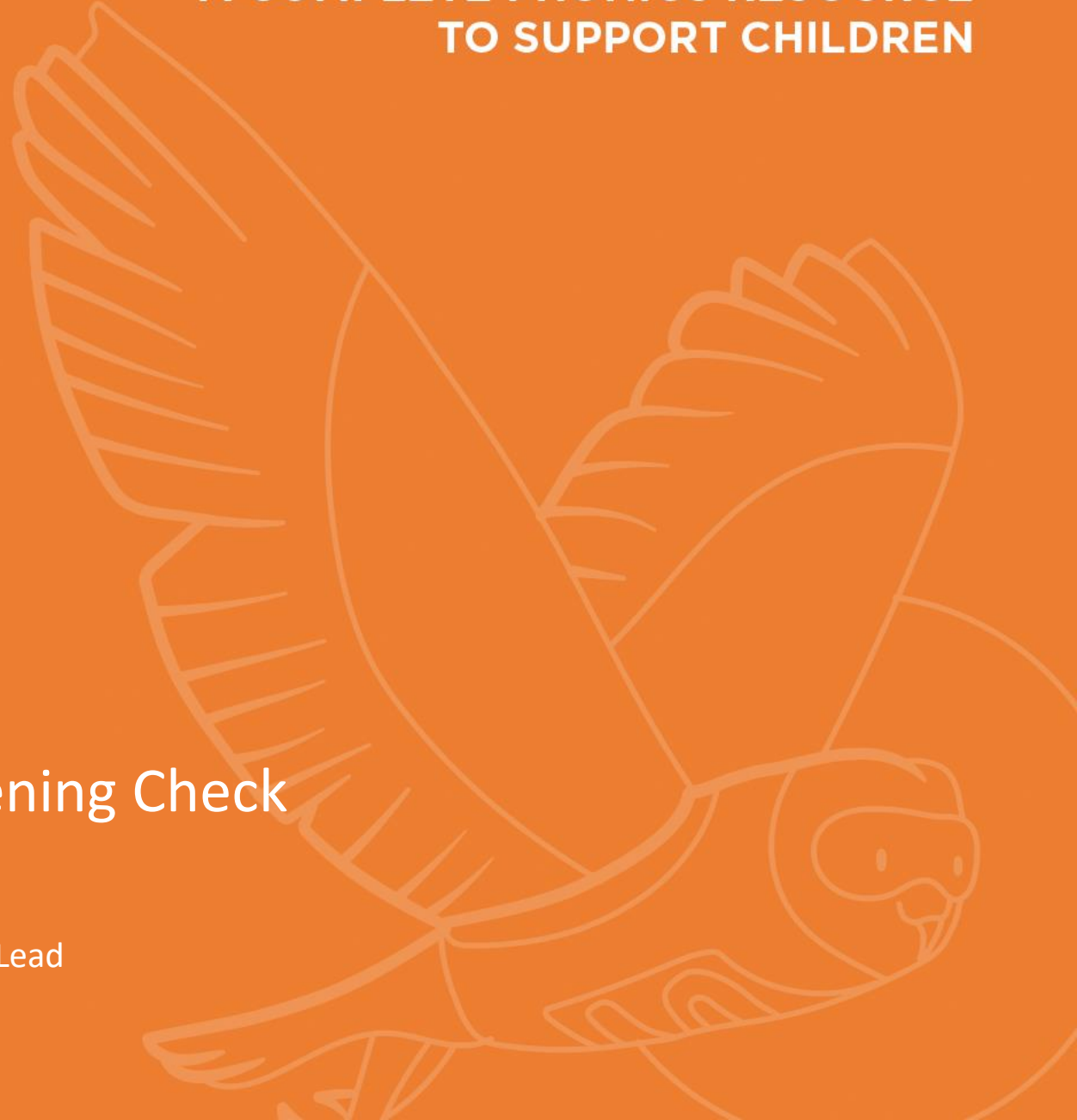
**A COMPLETE PHONICS RESOURCE  
TO SUPPORT CHILDREN**

# **Teach reading: change lives**

**Parent workshop: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check**

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**

Miss Allen, Assistant Headteacher, and Miss Aldridge, Early Reading Lead



# What your child been taught so far



Your child is being taught phase 5, they are learning:

- New graphemes for the Phase 2 and 3 sounds. The Grow the Code chart highlights all of these different sounds.
- Children will be able to:
  - Blend independently
  - Blend in their heads with increasing fluency and confidence
  - Start to distinguish between different phonemes/graphemes.

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

S	s	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h
s	ss	tt	pp	nn	mm	dd	gg	ck	rr	h
c	cc			kn	mb			ck	wr	
se				gn				cc		
ce								ch		
st										
sc										
b	f	l	j	v	w	x	y	z	qu	
bb	ff	ll	jj	vv	wh			zz		
	ph	le	dge	ve				s		
		al	ge					se		
								ze		
ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u	
tch	ch					ea	y	a	o-e	
ture	ti							ou	ou	
	ssi									
	si									
	ci									

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5

ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	yoo	oo	ar
ay	ea	ie	o	ue	ue	u*	a*
a	e	i	o-e	u-e	u	oul	al*
a-e	e-e	i-e	ou	ew	u-e		
eigh	ie	y	oe	ou	ew		
aigh	y		ow	ui			
ey	ey						
ea							
or	ur	ow	oi	ear	air	zh	
aw	er	ou	oy	ere	are	su	
au	ir			eer	ere	si	
aur	or				ear		
oor							
al							
a							
oar							
ore							

\*depending on regional accent



# Phonics Screening Check

# This term we begin preparing for the Phonics Screening Check

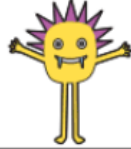





## What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- It is a quick check of your child's phonics knowledge.
- It is **not** designed to create any stress or anxiety for your child.
- It assesses decoding skills using phonics.
- It consists of 40 words (20 real words, 20 'alien words').

If children do not achieve the required score in Year 1, they will retake the screening at the end of Year 2.

Section 1

sut	
yad	
dop	
uct	

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Section 1

shop
yell
peel
check

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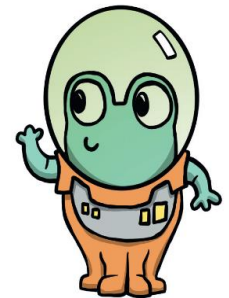
# What are 'alien words'?



Why we teach alien words  
for Phonics Screening Check

**A quick guide to alien words**

tabe



Yr1 Su1 wk1

# 'Alien words' recap



- The check will contain 20 'alien words'.
- The children will be familiar with alien words and will start to read them this term.
- Alien words assess children's decoding skills and are used in lessons for the purpose of preparing for the Phonics Screening Check **only**.
- Children cannot read these words by using their memory or known vocabulary, so they have to use their decoding skills. This is a fair way to assess their ability to decode.
- The Phonics Screening Check will be administered in June.

# How does the check work?

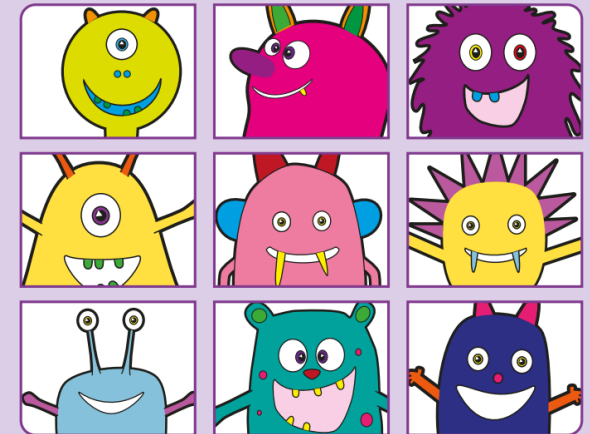
- Your child will sit with Miss Allen to do the check.
- They will be asked to read 40 words aloud including the GPCs they have been taught in school.
- This takes just a few minutes to complete, but there is no time limit.
- If your child is struggling, we will stop.
- It has been carefully designed not to be stressful for your child.

2023 national curriculum assessments

## Key stage 1

### Phonics screening check

Pupils' materials





# Supporting at home

# How can you support at home?

- Complete the home learning packs that are going to be sent home by class teachers before half term.
- When reading, **encourage them to decode and blend words to encourage them to do this out loud.**
- Listen to your child read their phonics reading book, daily.
- Play **Phonics games** such as, Phonics Play. A link to this website will be shared on Class Dojo.



# Supporting your child with phonics



## Videos



**Phase 2 sounds taught in  
Reception Autumn 1**



**Phase 2 sounds taught in  
Reception Autumn 2**



**Phase 3 sounds taught in  
Reception Spring 1**



**How to say Phase 5 sounds**

# The most important thing you can do is read with your child



## Reading a book and chatting had a positive impact a year later on children's ability to...

- understand words and sentences
- use a wide range of vocabulary
- develop listening comprehension skills.

The number of books children were exposed to by age 6 was a positive predictor of their reading ability two years later.





**Children are made readers  
on the laps of their parents.**

**— Emilie Buchwald**

