



Phonics and Early Reading

At Scotch Orchard Primary School, we believe that all our children can become fluent readers and writers. This is why we teach reading through Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, which is a systematic and synthetic phonics programme. The Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised progression ensures children build on their growing knowledge of the alphabetic code, mastering phonics to read and spell as they move through school.

Year 3

Phonics is taught daily in the autumn term to review Phase 5. We timetable daily phonics lessons for any child in Year 3 who is not fully fluent at reading or has not passed the Phonics Screening Check.

Additional Support

If any child in Year 3 to 6 has gaps in their phonic knowledge when reading or writing, we plan phonics 'catch-up' lessons to address specific reading/writing gaps. These short, sharp lessons last 10 minutes and take place at least three times a week.

Daily keep-up lessons ensure every child learns to read. Any child who needs additional practise has daily keep-up support, taught by a trained adult. Keep-up lessons match the structure of class teaching, and use the same procedures, resources and mantras, but in smaller groups with more repetition.

Reading Practice Sessions

Children are taught to read through reading practice sessions three times each week. These are taught by a fully trained adult to small groups of approximately six children. We use books that are carefully matched to the children's secure phonic knowledge.

Each reading practice session has a clear focus, so that the demands of the session do not overload the children's working memory. The reading practice sessions focus on three key reading skills:

- Decoding
- Prosody: teaching children to read with understanding and expression
- Comprehension: teaching children to understand the text

In Reception, these sessions start in week 4. Children who are not yet decoding have daily additional blending practice in small groups, so that they quickly learn to blend and can begin to read books. In Year 2 and 3, we continue to teach reading in this way for children who still need to practise reading with decodable books.

Home Reading

In Key Stage 2, Scholastic Reading Pro is used to ensure children are reading a range of books appropriate to their individual lexile level.

To support our families and share information about phonics and other aspects of our provision, we use [the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised resources](#).

Reading for Pleasure

We value reading for pleasure highly and work hard as a school to grow our Reading for Pleasure pedagogy.

- We read to children every day. Every class has daily class novel time to promote Reading for Pleasure. We choose these books carefully as we want children to experience a wide range of books, including books that reflect the children at Scotch Orchard and our local community as well as books that open windows into other worlds and cultures.
- Every classroom has an inviting book corner that encourages a love for reading. We talk about these books to entice children to read a wide range of books.
- In Nursery/Reception and Year 1, children have access to the reading corner every day in their free flow time and the books are continually reviewed and refreshed.
- Children from Reception onwards have a home reading record. Parents/carers are encouraged to record comments to share with the adults in school and the adults will write in this on a regular basis to ensure communication between home and school.
- Throughout the year we celebrate World Book Day, hold reading café sessions and Scholastic book fairs, as well as taking part in library challenges to further develop a love of reading.