

Phonic support meeting - April 2015

- Children will be asked to read 40 words - a mixture of real words and 'alien' words
- They need to score above the benchmark score to be given a "pass". This benchmark is not revealed until after the tests have been submitted but has previously been around 32/40.
- The phonics test covers all sounds up to the end of Phase 5 of the phonics scheme including words with consonant clusters e.g. "crunch"
- No support can be given but children are encouraged to use familiar strategies to decode a word and are allowed to correct themselves, providing this is not prompted.
- The list below shows the common vowel and consonant digraphs in addition to the single letter sounds.

ai	ee	oo	oa	ar	or	igh	ur	ow
ear	ur	oi	ay	ou	ie	ea	oy	ir
ue	aw	wh	ph	ew	oe	au	a-e	e-e
i-e	o-e	u-e	air	ure	ire	sh	ch	th

- Children are being taught to look for parts of the word they know and to look for phonemes rather than looking at a string of individual sounds. This is the difference between "l igh t" and "l i g h t".
- Children are being taught to "find the tricky bit" first, so to spot the "igh" in "light" and then build it up. This also stops them from sounding out each individual letter and gives them a better chance of decoding the word. Staff will not be able to prompt this on the day however, so getting the children used to this procedure will be vital.