

READ, WRITE, INC. PHONICS POLICY AUTUMN 2016

Read, Write, Inc. Phonics is an inclusive literacy programme for all children learning to read. It is aimed at children reading at Level D2 or below and teaches synthetic phonics. Children learn the 44 common sounds in the English language and how to blend them to read and spell. The scheme includes both a reading and a writing focus.

Reading is the key that unlocks the whole curriculum so the ability to efficiently decode is essential. The R.W.I sessions are expected to occur each day with no exceptions, as the continuity and pace of the programme is key to accelerating the progress of children's reading development.

Aims and Objectives.

To teach children to:

- apply the skill of blending phonemes in order to read words.
- segment words into their constituent phonemes in order to spell words.
- learn that blending and segmenting words are reversible processes.
- read high frequency words that do not conform to regular phonic patterns.
- read texts and words that are within their phonic capabilities as early as possible.
- decode texts effortlessly so all their resources can be used to comprehend what they read.
- spell effortlessly so that all their resources can be directed towards composing their writing.

Planning

Pupils work within ability groups which are defined by their performance on R.W.I. phonic tests. Pupils are re-tested during the year and the groups are reorganised accordingly.

Teacher generated planning is minimized as the planning is integrated into the teacher's handbooks and follows set routines. Each group leader has a printed format for planning ditties or storybook lessons. To this framework, is added the particular ditty/ storybook being studied, new phonic elements that are being introduced and any other points worthy of note for future use.

LSAs will be responsible for planning for their R.W.I groups, with the support of the R.W.I manager as required. LSAs will be given preparation time prior to the daily sessions.

Delivery of Phonics

- Initial sounds are to be taught in a specific order.
- Sounds taught should be 'pure' i.e. 'b', not 'buh' as this is central to phonic teaching and ability to recognise sounds in words.

- Blends are to be declustered, e.g. bl is two specific sounds.
- Children are to be taught that the number of graphemes in a word always corresponds to the number of phonemes. This greatly aids spelling.
- Set 2 sounds are to be taught after Set 1 (initial sounds)
- Letter names are to be introduced with Set 3.

R.W.I. across the school

RECEPTION: R.W.I. is fully implemented in Reception but the class will not be split into groups until the initial sounds have been taught. Once the sounds have been taught assessments will take place to determine groupings.

Sessions will take place daily. Within this time a 15-minute speed sounds session will occur with follow-up handwriting sessions while children access continuous provision, in line with the EYFS.

Key Stage One: R.W.I. groups will be set following assessments. The sessions will occur daily. These sessions will be complemented by literacy teaching. Once children are secure with their knowledge of Phonics, they will focus solely on Literacy learning.

Key Stage Two: R.W.I. groups will take the form of an intervention during literacy sessions for those children with the greatest need in Year 3/4.

SEN/Able Pupils

SEN pupils are fully involved in R.W.I. lessons as all pupils work in ability groups and teaching is geared to the speed of progress of each group. 1:1 tuition will be put in place, if required.

Able pupils are catered for as groups are based on ability and there is the flexibility to accommodate gifted younger pupils within groups of older children.

Assessment and Recording

Children are assessed throughout every lesson. Every time partner work is used the teacher assesses the progress of her children. The teacher assesses how children:

- read the grapheme chart
- read the green and red word lists
- decode the ditty/story
- comprehend the story

Each group leader is requested to keep a register to identify pupils that are absent or pupils that need extra reinforcement of a particular element that has been covered.

Formal assessment is carried out periodically by Reception Teachers, using the R.W.I. phonic checks. This allows for achieving homogeneity within each group and indicates, the correct access point for new entrants.

Spellings

In order to secure the sounds learnt during Phonics lessons – and as soon as the first 100 High Frequency words are securely recognised (sight recognition) – children will receive spellings to learn, based upon the focus sound for the week. These recap words already taught in class as a way to reinforce understanding of using sounds outside of context.

Words vary in length but should all be ‘decodable’ by the children, based on the fact that sounds will have been learnt in class.

Monitoring and Review

The R.W.I. manager/EYFS Leader will:

- ensure that tests are carried out for all KS1 pupils and designates pupils to the correct groups
- assigns leaders to groups
- ‘drop in’ on R.W.I. groups to give advice and to informally check that pupils are in the correct groups
- where necessary model lessons
- attend up-date meetings when they occur and reports back to the R.W.I. group leaders
- speak with the headteacher regarding groupings, teaching spaces and other pertinent matters
- be responsible for reporting to the governors about the quality of the implementation of R.W.I. and the impact on standards.