



Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

At Goodmayes Primary School, we understand the importance of teaching children to read fluently and for enjoyment, opening a world of learning opportunities. We teach phonics and early reading through Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, which is a systematic and synthetic phonics programme. We start teaching phonics in Nursery and follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised progression, which ensures children build on their growing knowledge of the alphabetic code, mastering phonics to read and spell as they move through school.

As a result, children are able to tackle any unfamiliar words as they read. At Goodmayes Primary School, we also model the application of the alphabetic code through phonics in shared reading and writing, both inside and outside of the phonics lesson and across the curriculum. We have a strong focus on language development for our children because we know that speaking and listening are crucial skills for reading and writing in all subjects.

Why learning to read is so important

- Reading is essential for all subject areas and improves life chances.
- Positive attitudes to reading and choosing to read have academic, social and emotional benefits for children.

Nursery

In our Nursery, children focus on Phase 1 phonics. This phase concentrates on children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundation for them to become successful readers and writers as they move up the school. Our priority in Nursery is to get children 'tuned in' to the sounds around them and develop their oral blending and segmenting skills. We embed our phonics learning throughout our provision.

Phase 1 focuses on

- General sound discrimination – environmental, instrumental and body percussion.
- Rhythm and rhyme
- Alliteration
- Voice sounds
- Oral blending and segmenting

Reception and Year 1

We teach phonics for 30 minutes a day. In Reception, we build from 10-minute lessons, to the full-length lesson as quickly as possible. Each Friday, we review the week's teaching to help children become fluent readers.

Children make a strong start in Reception: teaching begins in Week 2 of the Autumn term.

We follow the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised expectations of progress:

Children in Reception are taught to read and spell words using Phase 2 and 3 GPCs, and words with adjacent consonants (Phase 4) with fluency and accuracy.

Children in Year 1 review Phase 3 and 4 and are taught to read and spell words using Phase 5 GPCs with fluency and accuracy.

Use the link below for resources to help you support your child with saying their sounds and writing their letters. There are also some useful videos so you can see how they are taught at school and feel confident about supporting their reading at home.

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

Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

There are two types of reading book that your child may bring home:

- **A reading practice book.** This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.
- **A sharing book.** Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Reading practice book (eBook)

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please do not worry that it is too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they cannot read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Sharing book (Library 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 should not 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!