

Phonics screening check

What is the phonics screening check?

All **year 1** pupils in England take the phonics screening check. It is done in school by our staff.

The check is made up of 40 words, and usually lasts 5-10 minutes. Some words are real words, and others are nonsense, or 'alien' words that help to show if pupils can work out how to decode words they haven't seen before.

The check helps us to see:

- How pupils are progressing in phonics
- Where to provide additional teaching and support

The check may not be appropriate for some pupils. We'll let you know if we think this is the case for your child.

When will it be happening?

Year 1 will do the phonics screening check in **June**.

Children in Year 2 who did not pass their check in the previous academic year, will also take part in the check in June.

Do we get to know the results?

We have to report the results to Waltham Forest by the end of the autumn (year 2) or summer (year 1) term. We will also let you know the results.

If your child does not meet the expected standard in the check, they will get to have another go next year (for year 1) or in the summer term (for year 2). It is normally nothing to worry about.

The results do not count towards any league tables.

Do we need to prepare at home?

No – your child is being taught phonics at school and no special work at home is needed.

However, you can always help your child by:

- Reading to and with them
- Playing sound and reading games
- Teaching them new words, and showing them how they're written
- Attending parent workshops in school which will show you how to support your child further

Further Information

If you have any questions or want to talk further about the phonics screening check, please contact us by calling the school office. Our Phonics and Reading Lead is: Ms Farida Kerr.