



Phonics



At Coney Hill we teach phonics using **Unlocking Letters and Sounds**.

It is split into 5 phases and individual reading books and guided reading sets match the phases. All letter sounds have an action to help children remember the sounds (phonemes).

As soon as the children have learned the first 4 sounds they learn to decode by blending sounds together.

Eg. s a t - sat

We put sound buttons under the graphemes (the letter or letters that make that sound) and they tap the buttons and then blend the sounds together to read the word. We practise this skill lots of times a day.



We also teach the children to spell by segmenting (chopping the word up) into the sounds they can hear

Eg sat— s a t

They then write the sounds they hear.

Phonics vocab

Phoneme: The smallest unit of sound in a word



Grapheme: The letter or letters that represent that sound (phoneme)



Digraph: 2 letters making one sound



Trigraph: 3 letters making one sound



Common Exception words: Tricky words that cannot be sounded out fully eg the, said

The phonic phases are taught in different year groups and children are supported to keep up through intervention. It is taught as a whole class approach.

Phase 1: Preschool

Phase 2, 3 and 4: Reception

Phase 4 recap and Phase 5 a, b, c: Year One

Phase 1 is taught in preschool and then runs throughout all the phonic phases. Children learn to hear and say sounds, play with rhyme, rhythm and alliteration and orally blend and segment.

Phase 2 begins in Reception from Week 3. The children learn the following phonemes—s a t p i n m d g o c k e u r ck h f b l ss ll ff

Each sound has an action and word.

Phase 3 teaches the children the rest of the phonemes including digraphs and trigraphs - j v w x y z zz qu sh ch th ng ai ee igh oa oo oo ar or ur ow oi ear air ure er

Phase 4 teaches the children to use the graphemes they know to blend and segment words with 4 or 5 phonemes, and longer words that can be chunked to read eg desktop - desk/top

Phase 5 teaches the children the alternative graphemes for the 42 phonemes they know

5a - ay ou ie ea nk oy ir ue ue ph aw ew wh ew au oe ey tch a-e e-e i-e o-e u-e u-e

5b - alternative pronunciations for graphemes - a e i o u ow ie ea er ou y ch c g ey

5c - alternative graphemes for these phonemes - ch j m n r s z u i ear ar air or ur oo ai ee igh oa oo oo sh

 a	 e ea	 i y	 o a	 u o	 ai ay a-e ey a ei eigh	 ee ea e-e ey e y ie	 igh ie i-e i y	 oa oe o-e ow o	 oo ue ew u-e ou	 (y)oo ue ew u-e u	 oo u oul	 ar a al	 or aw au al our augh oor ore	 air are ear ere
 ur ir er ear or	 ow ou	 oi oy	 ear ere eer	 ure	 er u	 f ff ph	 l ll le	 m mm mb	 n nn gn kn	 r rr wr	 s ss se c ce	 v ve	 z zz s se	 sh ch ti ci s/ss
 th	 ng	 b bb	 c k ck ch	 d dd	 g gg	 h	 j g ge dge	 p pp	 qu	 t tt	 w wh	 x	 y	 ch tch t