



KEY STAGE ONE (YEAR ONE & TWO)

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

2024-2025

Year One Phonics Screening Check

As you know, from the start of Reception, we are supporting your child to read and write through daily phonics lessons. In the middle of June, children in Year One will take part in the **Phonics Screening Check**. Any children in Year Two who did not achieve the threshold pass score in Year One will also re-take the check. This is a national compulsory check that all children must take before the end of Year Two. In a very small number of cases children may be disapplied from the check and we will inform you if this is the case for your child. It is not a formal test but a way for us to ensure that your child is making sufficient progress with their phonics skills to **read** words and that they are on track to become fluent readers.

The check comprises of **20 real words and 20 alien words**. The alien words are made up words that can be sounded out using phonic knowledge; for example, 'throom'. Here is a video explaining why we teach the alien words.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtoJZMVgy1I&ab_channel=LettersandSoundsforHomeandSchool

The check will be carried out by your child's class teacher on a one to one basis and we will do our very best to put your child at ease. You will find out if your child achieved the expected standard in your child's school report at the end of the summer term. The pass mark last year was 32 out of 40.

We want the children to be confident in reading the words and we will work hard to prepare them for it during our daily phonics lessons. However, any support you can give them at home will be extremely valuable.

How you can help at home with phonics and reading?

- Children ideally need to read their **phonics book at least three times a week** to embed their phonics and reading skills.
- Always read the **inside cover of the phonics book** where there is a grapheme check for children to read **before** they read the book.
- Complete the **phonics homework** which will be given out every Friday. The words on the homework sheet are words which have appeared on **previous phonics check** papers.

Here are some games that your child may like to play at home to practise their phonics skills:

Picnic on Pluto – read the words and choose whether they are real or not real.

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/2/picnic-on-pluto>

Poop Deck Pirates – read the words and choose whether the words are real or not real.

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/poopDeck/index.html>

Forest Phonics – a spelling game.

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/forestPhonics/index.html>

Spooky Sounds – put the chosen sound in the cauldron.

<https://ictgames.com/mobilePage/spookySounds/index.html>

If you have any other questions please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher. Thank you once again for all your support.

As always, we advise that you keep the practise fun and light hearted. If your child is really not engaging, don't force them and come back to it another time.

End of KS1 (Year Two) Assessment

In previous years we were required to participate in national Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs). **This is no longer a statutory requirement** and attainment outcomes for children in year two will no longer be submitted and published nationally.

Schools are able to continue to use similar assessment materials to supplement ongoing school-based Teacher Assessments as part of their practice, if they wish to do so.

As in previous years we will continue to securely pass on detailed information about each child's development and attainment to West Bridgford Junior School (or the school they will be attending.) This helps them to have a clear understanding of your child's next steps in learning ready for the start of Year Three.

What will assessment look like this year?

- Assessment is part of our everyday practice at West Bridgford Infant School. We are continually assessing children's knowledge, skills and understanding and use this to identify their gaps in learning and their next steps. This is used to inform our planning on a lesson by lesson, day by day and week by week basis.
- We continually assess and track children's progress from their starting points and against end of year/key stage expectations in all areas of the National Curriculum. We also assess their general development, their personal and social development and attitudes to learning.
- In year one and two there is more focused assessment of Reading, Writing, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling and Maths.
- Assessment takes many forms such as: asking children questions; observing children working with others or solving problems; talking through work with children; marking written work and sometimes written tests/quizzes.
- This year we will be using some of the published assessment materials to provide standardised assessments across year two in addition to our ongoing Teacher Assessments.
- We teach children, in age appropriate ways, about assessment and feedback and why this is important to help them learn. All assessments are undertaken in

normal classroom settings mostly in a small group with the class teacher but occasionally as a whole class, (for example a piece of independent writing.)

- At the end of each year your child's teacher makes a summative 'Teacher Assessment' judgement about their attainment based on a range of assessment evidence as previously described.

How will you know about your child's achievements?

The Assessments at the end of each year are a summative snapshot of your child's achievement at that point in time. What they do not tell you is the progress your child has made from the start of school or during this school year. For many children this has been exceptional and will be reflected in their report. Whilst working hard to ensure children make good progress and catch up with any gaps in their learning, we have also been equally focused on ensuring they develop sound learning behaviours and emotional health. Please remember that your child is only at the start of their learning journey. They have several years of learning ahead before participating in assessments that are more critical to their future choices.

At the end of the summer term you will receive your child's annual school report. This will be similar to reports in previous year but will also give you information about your child's attainment at the end of each year and in Year Two at the end of Key Stage One.

Children's attainment will be reported as:

WTS - Working Towards the Expected Standard

EXS - Working at the Expected Standard or

GDS - Working in Greater Depth within the Expected Standard

Some children may be working below the expected standard and their attainment will be reported against Pre Key Stage 1 Standards.

Other children with Special Educational Needs may be working on a different curriculum and their attainment will be reported using the Engagement Model.

If your child is working on a different curriculum or below the expected standard, you will already have been made aware of this at parent meetings.

How can I help my child in Year Two?

- Praise and encourage your child for trying their best at school.
- Remind them that to learn we need to have go at new challenges and that it is ok to make mistakes.
- Reassure them if they are worried.
- Ensure your child has the best possible attendance at school.
- Support your child with any homework tasks.
- Reading, spelling and maths facts (e.g. times tables and mental maths) are always good to practise.

- Take a look at the White Rose App. (This is the maths scheme we use.) You can download the app for **free on the App store** at the following link.
<https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/1-minute-maths>
- Talk to your child about what they have learnt at school and what book(s) they are reading (the character, the plot, their opinion).
- Make sure your child has a good sleep and healthy breakfast every morning!

Summary

- Please remember that your children are still very young. Some of them will still be 6 at the end of Year Two! Children are unique. If they are reaching their individual potential, we should be very proud of them.
- We feel strongly that there are other equally important areas of your child's learning and development which will enable them to become rounded individuals with key life skills which will equip them for adult life in a rapidly changing world. Please remember to celebrate their strengths in other areas such as being a confident and articulate speaker, having strong interpersonal skills, creative thinking, problem solving, artistic or physical talents.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.