

The approach we use to teaching Phonics at St Luke's is by following the 'Letters and Sounds' planning guidance. Phonics is taught daily in Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y2 and in KS2 where needed.

Letters and Sounds is a phonics resource published by the Department for Education and Skills in 2007. It aims to build children's speaking and listening skills in their own right as well as to prepare children for learning to read by developing their phonic knowledge and skills. It sets out a detailed and systematic programme for teaching phonic skills for children starting by the age of five, with the aim of them becoming fluent readers by age seven.

There are six overlapping phases. The table below is a summary based on the Letters and Sounds guidance for Practitioners and Teachers. For more detailed information, visit the [Letters and Sounds](#) website.

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Phonic Knowledge and Skills</b>
<i>Phase One</i> (Nursery/Reception)	Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending and segmenting.
<i>Phase Two</i> (Reception) up to 6 weeks	Learning 19 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each. Blending sounds together to make words. Segmenting words into their separate sounds. Beginning to read simple captions.
<i>Phase Three</i> (Reception) up to 12 weeks	The remaining 7 letters of the alphabet, one sound for each. Graphemes such as ch, oo, th representing the remaining phonemes not covered by single letters. Reading captions, sentences and questions. On completion of this phase, children will have learnt the "simple code", i.e. one grapheme for each phoneme in the English language.
<i>Phase Four</i> (Reception) 4 to 6 weeks	No new grapheme-phoneme correspondences are taught in this phase. Children learn to blend and segment longer words with adjacent consonants, e.g. swim, clap, jump.
<i>Phase Five</i> (Throughout Year 1)	Now we move on to the "complex code". Children learn more graphemes for the phonemes which they already know, plus different ways of pronouncing the graphemes they already know.
<i>Phase Six</i> (Throughout Year 2 and beyond)	Working on spelling, including prefixes and suffixes, doubling and dropping letters etc.

As the table indicates children are expected to achieve Phase 5 by the end of Year 1 and pupils will complete a Phonics Screening Check in June . The children are expected to read real and nonsense words to show that they are able to read Phase 5 sounds accurately. Children are assessed half termly against the expectations of the phase that has been delivered to them and teachers will then target their needs to the next phase of phonics teaching they will receive. Children will receive phonics reading books to support their learning of the phase they are currently working within and staff will provide further support where required for children not meeting their expected targets.

Our phonics lessons provide an exciting, challenging and fun environment to learn reading and spelling patterns essential to English development. They are based on a four part lesson:

Revisit  
Teach  
Practice  
Apply

Useful website for parents are:

[www.phonicsplay.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

[www.jollylearning.co.uk](http://www.jollylearning.co.uk)

[www.letters-and-sounds.com](http://www.letters-and-sounds.com)