

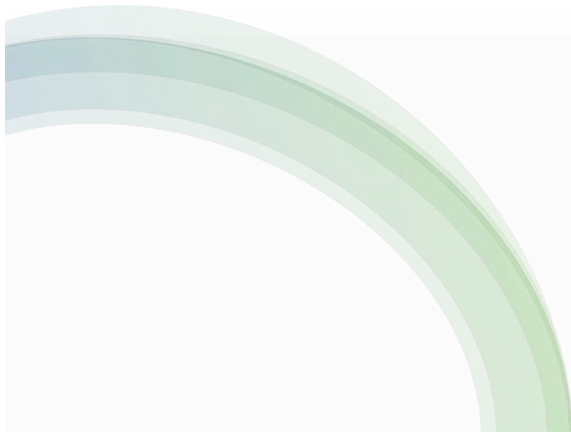


Meanwood
CE Primary School
Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms



Welcome to Meanwood C of E Primary School

Phonics Screening Check Meeting
27th April 2026



We want to share with you.....

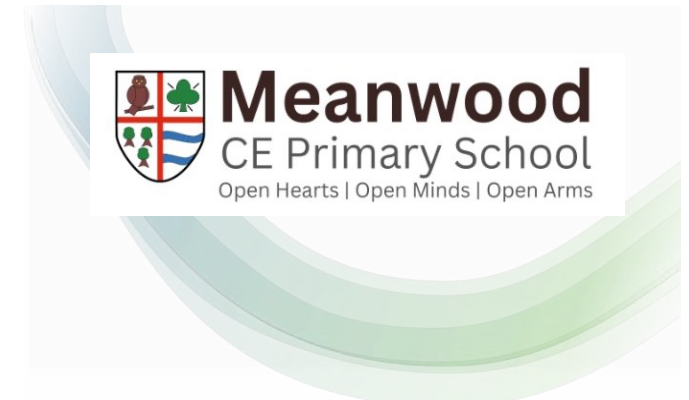
- A recap of our Phonics Teaching
- An introduction to the National Phonics Screening Check
- How we prepare for the phonics screening check and support your child in school
- Ways to help your child at home



Meanwood
CE Primary School
Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms

Success for All Phonics

We follow our systematic synthetic phonics teaching programme which is validated by the DfE and supports children to develop their phonics and reading skills.



A reminder

phoneme

The smallest unit of sound in a word

Say 'nephew' slowly

How many phonemes or sounds can you hear?

n /e/ ph/ ew

grapheme

A phoneme written down is called a grapheme.

Some graphemes represent more than one phoneme.

'oo' has two different phonemes as in 'book' and 'zoo'.

A reminder



Meanwood
CE Primary School
Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms

digraph

A grapheme that has 2 letters to make one sound

ea sh

split - digraph

A digraph that is split up by a consonant

oe a-e

trigraph

A grapheme that has 3 letters to make one sound

e-e i-e

ire ear
igh

A reminder

GPC

- Grapheme phoneme correspondence
- The relationship of the grapheme and the phoneme that represents it.
- To see the grapheme 'ea' and know the sound that it will make. (tea)
- To hear the sound /ea/ and know how to write the corresponding grapheme.

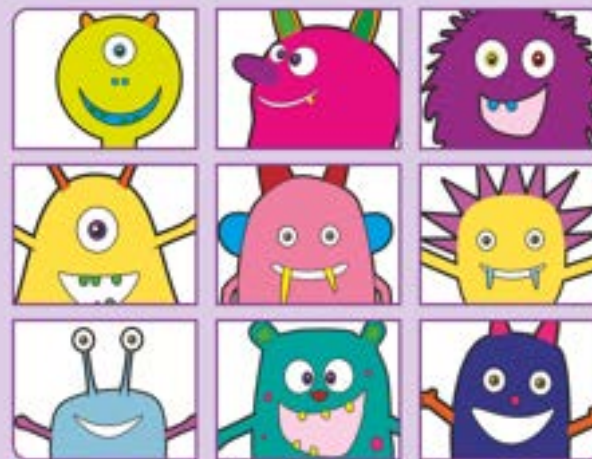
The Phonics Screening Check

2023 national curriculum assessments

Key stage 1

Phonics screening check

Pupils' materials



The Phonics Screening Check



- A check of your child's phonics knowledge and their decoding and blending skills.
- To see if your child is making the progress expected in the national curriculum.
- Carried out across the country in the Summer Term of Year 1 (wc 8th June 2026).
- 40 word challenge including real words and 'alien' (pseudo) words.
- 32 has been the pass mark previously.
- Your child will sit one to one and read each word aloud to a teacher.
- An alien word is a word that is phonically decodable but not an actual word with an associated meaning.
- School will report results home in the Summer term.

Why alien words?

- The alien words are shown to your child with a picture of an alien next to them.
- They have the context for the alien word and this is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.
- Alien words are included because they are new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary or visual memory of words.
- Alien words are included to specifically assess whether your child can decode a word using their phonics skills.



Meanwood
CE Primary School
Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms

jer



drave



teap



phibe



Real words

- Real words are also included for children to decode and blend.
- Encourage children to point to each sound in the word and then blend the word together.
- Some more challenging words include alternative sounds.



Meanwood
CE Primary School
Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms

relay

ending

dolphin

crackers

How will we prepare your child in school?

- Practise booklets with your child one to one to help get them used to the test.
- Phonics games daily with real and alien words e.g. Phonics Play
- Children will read alien words every day around the classroom
- Daily phonics and reading lessons to support children to learn each GPC, develop decoding and blending skills and introduce alien words
- Reading Assessment programme
- Phonics intervention for children needing additional support.



How can I help my child?



- Play sound and listening games e.g. Phonics Play
<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/5>
- Use the Success for All Parent Portal: <https://parents.fft.org.uk/tips-for-home-reading/>
- Watch videos of how to pronounce each GPC
- Use the alliterative phrases to support your child in practising the GPC
- Practise reading the Shared Readers at home
- Read as much as possible and make it fun!
- Encourage and support your child to decode the word by saying each sound and then blending the sounds together.



Meanwood
CE Primary School
Open Hearts | Open Minds | Open Arms

Question Time !