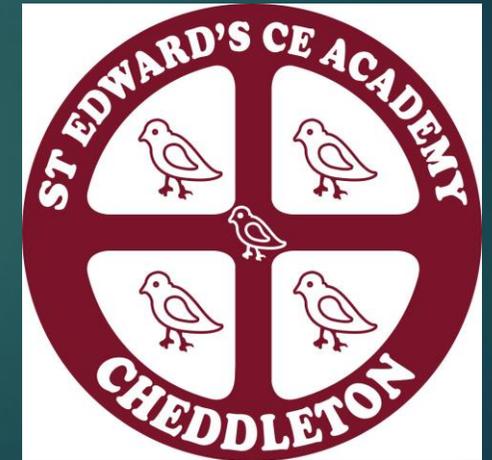


# Phonics Screening Check A Guide for Parents

May 2021



# What is phonics?

- Phonics is a method of teaching reading and writing that matches sounds with letters, grapheme phoneme correspondence (GPCs).
- Children have a daily 20 minute phonics lessons at St Edward's Academy.
- They are taught to read by breaking down words into separate sounds.
- They are then taught how to blend these sounds together to read the whole word.
- ▶ [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW\\_v-1s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s)

# What is the phonics screening test?

- ▶ Children in Year 1 throughout the country usually take part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June.
- ▶ Children in Year 2 would also take the check if they did not achieve the required result when in Year 1 or they have not taken the test before.
- ▶ The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonic decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard.
- ▶ This year (2021) the Government are not collating data from schools for the phonic screen but at St Edward's we will be carrying out the phonic screen to assess the children's phonic knowledge. We will be doing this in July.

# What happens during the test?

- ▶ The test contains 40 words. Each child will sit one-to-one and read each word aloud to a teacher. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (not real words).
- ▶ The check is very similar to tasks that the children already complete during phonics lessons.
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46SyC6bZOF8>

# Pseudo words (not real words)

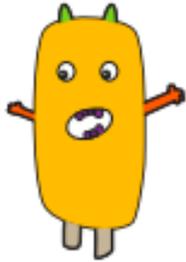
- ▶ The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien.
- ▶ This provides the children with a context for the word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have.
- ▶ Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory of words.

▶ det 

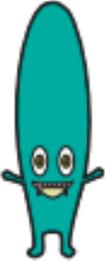
▶ gleep 

Section 1

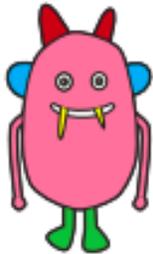
reb



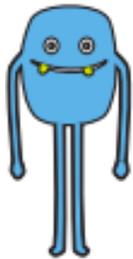
wup



jub



eps



Section 1

flat

skill

gift

coins

# Reporting to parents

- ▶ By the end of the summer term all schools would usually report each child's results to their parents. They would also confirm if the child has met the standard threshold.
- ▶ Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the test when they are in Year 2.
- ▶ We will inform you of your child's result on their 'My Year of Learning Report' to show if they have met the standard threshold.

# How can I help my child at home?

- Play lots of sound and listening games with your child and read as much as possible to and with your child. Encourage and praise get them to try their best.
- If your child is struggling to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right. Use robot arms or sound buttons to remind them what to do.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gJD5oQgj\\_g4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gJD5oQgj_g4)
- Discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.
- Playing games online <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources> Buried Treasure, Dragon's Den and Picnic on Pluto are all free. You can select specific phonemes or revise all Phase 5 depending on the needs of your child.
- <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> Has a good selection of e-books and phonics e-books



If you need any more information or have any questions about the phonic screen please message Miss Bills (English Lead) Mrs Hordern, Miss Gratton, Mr Carter or Mr Bode on ClassDojo.