

Phonics

INTENT

At Whitnash Primary School, we aim to ensure all children develop a secure knowledge of phonics so they can go on to develop a love of reading and writing. Phonics is taught so that it is accessible to all: through the use of the Read Write Inc. program. Phonics is a key skill that supports the development of early reading skills. Pupils are taught to use their phonics skills to develop their understanding of reading and writing. At Whitnash, we combine quality phonic teaching with exposure to a range of texts and the promotion of reading for pleasure to provide our pupils with the skills they need to have a successful start to their lives as readers.

IMPLEMENTATION

In order to implement our intent, we will provide children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 with daily Phonics sessions, delivered using the Read, Write, Inc program, delivered by staff that have all undertaken full Read write Inc training. We ensure staff are equipped with the necessary skills and resources to deliver the sessions. Children take home books relevant to their phonics level in order to allow home to support the phonics work being undertaken in school. The daily Phonics sessions in Early Years and Key Stage 1, give children the pupils opportunity to learn new phonemes and to improve their ability to segment and blend sounds. They can then use this ability to apply this knowledge into their reading and writing. The Read, Write, Inc program allows pupils to learn the 44 common sounds in the English language and they are taught how to blend these sounds to decode (read) words. We work in small and focussed group teaching to target children's specific next steps. A rigorous assessment system that informs teaching is used along with a cohesive and consistent approach to teaching Phonics. These daily sessions follow the same structure in order to support the children. Those children who are not making the required progress will then be given the opportunity to take part in the Read, Write Inc Fast Track program, which is a one to one intervention delivered by a fully trained adult in order to allow the child to catch up with their peers. This program is again delivered daily to ensure no child is left behind when it comes to learning phonics. All children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 are given regular reading opportunities and story times. All children in Year 1 complete the phonics-screening test in the summer term.

IMPACT

Through implementing the above our pupils will be confident in their phonic knowledge They will be able to blend and segment words confidently to read and write phonetically decodable words and use this knowledge to attempt to read and write more complex words. Children will pass the Phonics Screening Test. The children will learn to love reading through fun but challenging phonic activities and we will create a culture where a secure knowledge of phonic sounds enables reading for pleasure as part of our reading curriculum.