



Phonics

The government strongly promotes the use of synthetic phonics when teaching early literacy skills to children. Synthetic phonics is simply the ability to convert a letter or letter group into sounds that are then blended together into a word.

To teach phonics and early reading skills at Inkersall we use the highly successful synthetic phonics programme called 'Read Write Inc' produced by Ruth Miskin. Read Write Inc is a method of learning centred around letter sounds and phonics, blending them together to read and write words and using these learnt sounds in their reading.

Children follow a daily phonic programme to create fluent, enthusiastic readers, confident speakers and willing writers.

Using Read Write Inc the children learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read.

The five Ps:

- Participation - our teaching strategies ensure that all children participate fully in the whole lesson - there is no chance for children to lose concentration and miss key elements of the teaching.
- Praise - children work together, as partners, taking turns to teach and praise one another and they are motivated by the focused praise they receive from teachers and teaching assistants.
- Pace - a lively pace keeps all the children fully engaged.
- Purpose - teachers know the purpose of every activity and how it leads into the next.
- Passion - it is easy for teacher to be passionate about their teaching because they see their children make sure rapid progress.

What does it look like in school?

In Nursery children begin to learn the letter sounds. From Reception to Y2, children are streamed into attainment groups to ensure that teaching and learning is at the correct level for their current achievement. Children receive a daily 40 - minute session with a trained member of staff and are assessed at least once per half term.

Phonics Screening Check

The National phonics screening check is a statutory assessment that was introduced in 2012 to all Year 1 pupils and is a quick and easy check of a child's phonics knowledge. All Year 1 pupils take the phonics screening check in June. The check comprises of a list of 40 real words and nonsense words. It assesses phonics skills and knowledge learned in Reception and Year 1. Children read the words one to one with a teacher. If a child does not reach the pass threshold (typically 32) at the end of Year 1, they receive additional support in phonics and complete the check again at the end of Year 2.