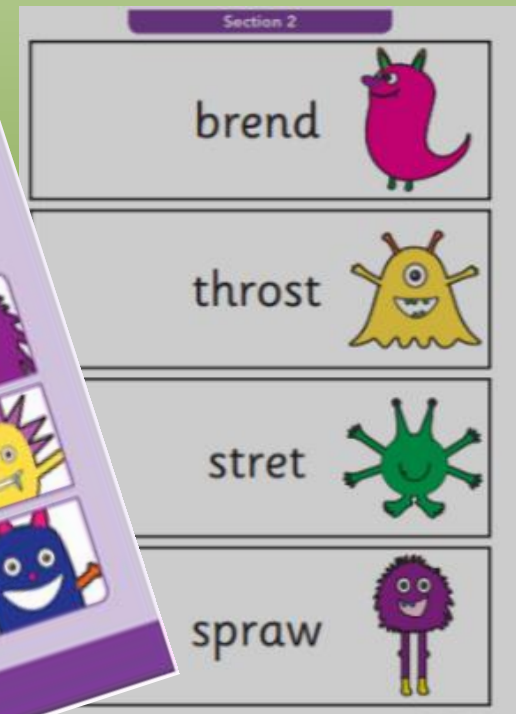
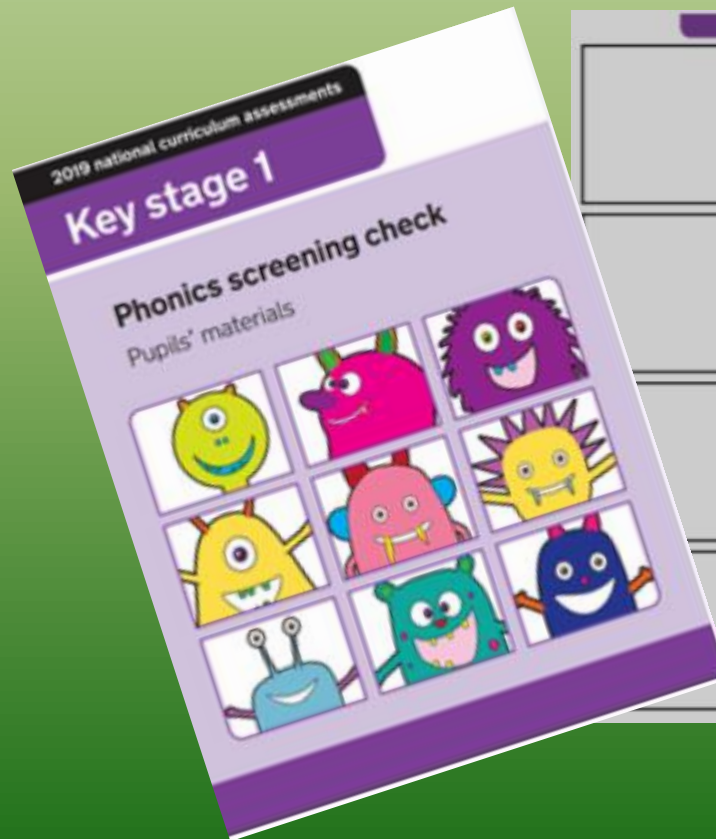


Phonics screening check 2025



What is phonics?

- Phonics is the breakdown of words into sounds.
- Year 1 children are taught phonics in school, every day.
- As they move through Reception and Year 1, the sounds become more complex.

Why are children screened?

- To confirm that each child has grasped the basics of decoding (this is the way children are taught to read).
- To identify children who need extra support.
- The children who do not reach the age appropriate level will retake the phonics screening check at the end of Y2.

What will the children be expected to do?

A task similar to those done during lessons where children are asked to sound out a word and then blend the sounds together.

c-a-t cat c a t

...

Examples of words

- Some controversy over nonsense words
- Level playing field so that sight readers are not advantaged.

- quigh
- voisk
- strom



Screening check

- Implemented since 2011 as a pilot
- There are 40 questions, last years pass mark was 32/40. The highest it has ever been is 34/40. We don't know the pass mark until after the raw scores are submitted.
- In the past we realised that a lot of our good readers don't perform as expected because they try to make sense of the words and make them into words they know. Over the last few years we have really focused on nonsense words and introduced them in Reception. (Alien words)

The screening check

- The check is made up of 2 sections:

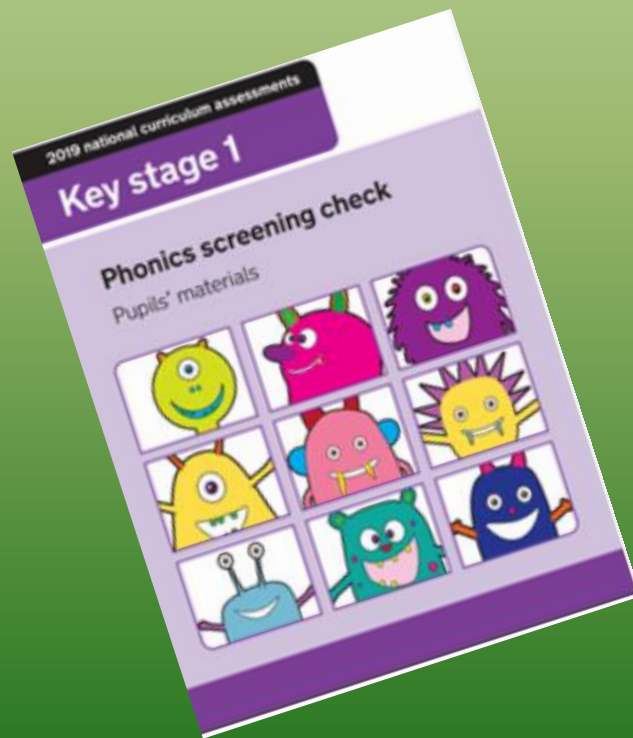
1st section Phase 3

2nd section Phase 5 moving towards more complex Phase 5 and Phase 6

- We encourage children to sound out a word even though they don't need to, just to try and stop them making simple mistakes.

When will the check take place?

- The screening check will take place during the week beginning 9th-13th June.



Who will complete the check?

- The check will be completed by a teacher the children are familiar and comfortable with.
- Before this, the children will already be familiar with a Phonics Screening Test and have taken several tests throughout the year.

How can you help?

- What is a phoneme?-Single sound
- Special Friends e.g. c**ow**
- **night**
- Split digraphs e.g. sp**ine**
- Sound buttons
- Encourage to sound out more than once
- Not a race- no time limit

How can you help?

- Play games like:
'Phonics Play'- on the internet
- Reading at home, support more challenging books.
- Read words around the environment, menu's, play places etc..
- Use the phonics pack that came home.
- Check out the materials on our school website for Year 1.

Questions

What is the check made up of?

20 real words, 20 made up words phase 3, 4 and 5.

It's a mixture!

What happens if my child doesn't pass?

This is NOT a pass/fail, it's just a check, but if children do not attain the required score, they will be given further support next year and will re-take the check at the end of year 2. A pass is not necessary to achieve age related expectations at the end of year 2 for reading.

When do parents get results?

Confidentially in with the reports- reported as an actual score.

- We know where your child is in phonics we don't really need the check to tell us but it is something we have to do.
- If you have concerns, please talk to us.
- If they are not on track your child will be getting the support they need.