## Teaching and Learning Phonics at London Meed school

### Aims

- To share how phonics is taught.
- To teach the basics of phonics and some useful phonics terms
- To develop parents' confidence in helping their children
- To outline the different stages in phonic development
- To show examples of activities and resources we use to teach phonics

## What is phonics?

#### Phonics is:

A way of teaching your child to read and write.

There are 26 letters in the English alphabet and 44 common sounds.

When your child learns phonics they are learning these 44 sounds and how they match to letters on the page.

These are learnt in a set order that will help your child to get reading quickly.

These letters and sounds are a code to read and spell unknown words.

Learning phonics will help your child to become a good reader and writer.

### **Daily Phonics**

- Every day the children have 20 minute sessions of phonics
- Fast paced approach
- Lessons encompass a range of games, songs and rhymes
- We use the Phonics Bug programme from EYFS to Year 3 as needed.
- There are 5 phonics phases which the children work through at their own pace

### Phonic terms your child will learn at school

- Phonemes: The smallest units of sound that are found within a word
- Grapheme: A grapheme is a letter or a number of letters that represent a sound (phoneme) sh ch
- Diagraph: Two letters that make one sound when read
- Trigraph: Three letters that make one sound
- CVC: Stands for consonant, vowel, consonant.
- Segmenting: breaking up a word into its sounds.
- Blending : Putting the sounds together to read a word
- Common exception words: Words that cannot easily be decoded.

Your children will learn to use the term:

#### phoneme

Phonemes are sounds that can be heard in words

e.g. c-a-t

It's really important that we say the pure sound without

adding additional sounds to the end eg: fff not fuh.



Your children will learn to use the term:

## grapheme

This is how a phoneme is written down

Your children will learn to use the term:

Digraph

This means that the phoneme comprises of two letters

e.g. ai, ee, ar

Your children will learn to use the term:

Trigraph

This means that the phoneme comprises of three letters

e.g. igh , ear, ure

Your children will learn to use the term:

### Blending

- Used to help when reading a word that a child doesn't recognise.
- Recognising the individual sounds in a word then blend these together into the word written down.
- When your child is reading with you encourage them to say the sounds they can see first and then blend these together.

## Blending /b//e//d/ = bed/n//igh//t/ = night/m//u//g/ = mug

## Look at the phonics lesson for the digraph 'sh'.

Which sounds are put together?

Blend these sounds together into the word.

Your children will learn to use the term:

### Segmenting

- This is the opposite of blending and we use this to help us write and spell.
- We split a word up into individual sounds and write these sounds.
- At London Meed we use robot arms to help.

## Segmenting chair = /ch/ /air/ night = /n//igh//t/mug = /m / /u / /g /

# Have a go at segmenting words into sounds.

# Which letters are you using to write these sounds down?

Your children will learn to use the term:

### Common exception words

These words don't conform to phonics so they are taught as a whole word.

e.g. the, some, today,

#### How can I help my child at home?

Encourage your child to read out loud at least 4 times a week.

Find a comfortable place to sit so that you can both see the book or screen so it is shared.

Don't worry if you don't finish the whole book.

If your child is struggling read together as a team.

Remember every word read is a step forward on your child's reading journey!

### Phonics Bug let's look at this together:

- reading books and games allocated by your class teacher.
- These books are specifically chosen to practise the new phonemes just taught.

### Oral blending - see the handout:

- Robot talking
- I spy
- Point out print when you are out
- Playing with words

### Phoneme recognition games:

- Looking for letters
- Fast letter sorting
- Letter discrimination
- Ladder letters
- Letter sound bingo

