

Six Phases of Letters and Sounds

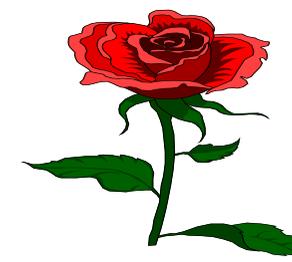
Phase	Phonic Knowledge and Skills
Phase One	Activities are divided into seven aspects, including environmental sounds, instrumental sounds, body sounds, rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and finally oral blending and segmenting.
Phase Two	Learning 19 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each. Blending sounds together to make words. Segmenting words into separate sounds. Beginning to read simple captions.
Phase Three	The remaining 7 letters of the alphabet, one sound for each. Graphemes such as ch, oo, th representing the remaining phonemes not covered by single letters. Reading captions, sentences and questions. On completion of this phase, children will have learnt the 'simple code' i.e. one grapheme for each phoneme in the English language.

Six Phases of Letters and Sounds

Phase	Phonic Knowledge and Skills
Phase Four	No new grapheme-phoneme correspondences are taught in this phase. Children learn to blend and segment longer words with adjacent consonants e.g. swim, clap, jump.
Phase Five	Now we move on to the 'Complex Code'. Children learn more graphemes for the phonemes which they already know, plus different ways of pronouncing the graphemes they already know.
Phase Six	Working on spelling, including prefixes and suffixes, doubling and dropping letters etc.



*St Therese's Catholic Primary School
Basil Catholic San Therese*



*'Be Joyful, Learn and
keep the Faith'*

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*Letters and Sounds
School Information
Leaflet*

What is Letters and Sounds?

Here at St. Therese's Primary School, we use a structured approach to the teaching of phonics, reading and writing, called Letters and Sounds.

The content is organised into 6 phases. Children will be ready to progress to each stage at different ages and teaching is organised to best meet individual children's needs. This may mean that your child is not always working with children in the same year group.

Glossary of Terms

blending	the process of combining phonemes into words eg c-a-t cat
decode	the ability to read words
digraph	two letters representing one phoneme e.g. ch, ar, er
grapheme	written representation of a sound, can be one or more letters
morpheme	the smallest unit of meaning in a word e.g. one morpheme (house), two morphemes (house/s)
phoneme	the smallest unit of sound in a word. There are approximately 44 phonemes in English. Phonemes can be represented by different numbers of letters
phonological awareness	awareness of sounds within words
segment	to break a word or part of a word into phonemes e.g. c-a-t, ch-a-t, ch-ar-t
trigraph	three letters representing one phoneme e.g. igh, dge

Letters and Sounds

Phase 1

Activities concentrate on developing children's speaking and listening skills, awareness of **phonemes** and blending and segmenting skills.

Phase 2

Children are introduced to **graphemes**

Set 1 s a t p

Set 2 l m n d

Set 3 g o c k

Set 4 c k e u r

Set 5 h b f ff l ll s

Phase 3

The final letters are introduced. 15 **digraphs** and 2 **trigraphs**

Set 6 j v w x

Set 7 y z zz qu

ch chip

or form

ee feet

sh ship

or for

igh night

th thin/then

ur hurt

oa boat

ng ring

ow cow

er corner

ai rain

oi coin

oo boot/look

ear dear

air fair

Phase 4

Children consolidate their knowledge of graphemes and phonemes and being to blend more complex words.

Phase 5

Children learn new phonemes and investigate how the same phoneme can be represented by different graphemes.

ay day

oy boy

wh when

a-e make

ou out

ir girl

ph photo

e-e these

ie tie

ue blue

ew new

i-e like

ea eat

aw saw

oe toe

o-e home

au Paul

u-e rule

Phase 6

Children focus on spelling strategies and investigate the past tense and suffixes as well as learning spelling rules.

Tricky Words

The English language is complex and early on children find that not all written words can be segmented. We call these words the 'Tricky Words' and they are introduced through each phase. Tricky words have to be learnt. Tricky word bingo games and flashcards are useful ways you can help your child to learn them.

