



Reading in Year 1

In Year 1 we continue to build on the critical and foundational phonics learning of EYFS. The reading scheme, books and lessons will revisit and reinforce the sounds taught in Phases 2 and 3 while also moving the children through into Phase 5. This is where they will truly accelerate their abilities to decode and access text as they are taught the alternative spellings for the sounds they know already - while also continuing to learning new Tricky Words. As with EYFS, reading in Year 1 is more than just word recognition. Comprehension continues to play a vital role in reading and discussion with your child about the book they are reading is incredibly enriching..

Reading with your child at home

The books you take home are a seamless continuous of your child's reading journey in EYFS. You will take home a reading practice book that will be at the correct phonic stage for your child from where they were assessed to be at the end of EYFS. They should be able to read this fluently and independently. This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level and if your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy - your child needs to continue to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Inside the front pages of your reading books are all the sounds, tricky words and key vocabulary your child will need to access the text. In the book of the books you will find excellent comprehension focused questions and tasks to support your child once you have read the book.

Please see our website for links to helpful reading resources.

Or search for "Little Wandle for parents" where you will find helpful videos on how to pronounce sounds, how we teach blending, sheets showing the patterns for each sound and much more!

Little Wandle

At Westbury Park we follow the Little Wandle phonics scheme starting in EYFS and through until the end of KS1.

Your child will receive daily phonics input and focused reading sessions twice a week. In these sessions we focus on:

- The use of 'pure' sounds not 'sloppy' sounds
- The teaching of reading and writing alternative spellings for graphemes taught in EYFS.
- Oral Segmenting & Blending opportunities
- Reading words and captions
- Comprehension questions and tasks

Reading Records

At the end of each week you will continue to receive a new book in your child's book bag. Please read this book at least three times at home with your child. In your yellow reading record please write the date, title of the book and your initials in the boxes to show when you have read.

You may also leave a comment about how your child is getting on with their reading that we can share with the children to help motivate them! If you have any concerns with your child's reading then please email or speak to us directly.



Reading in Year 1

FAQ's

How often should my child read at home?

Little Wandle

We will listen to your child read twice a week at school - this is additional to their daily phonics lessons.

Reading with my child

We recommend listening to your child read at least 3 times a week at home. We also recommend reading to them daily.

My child is struggling to read tricky words, how can I help them?

It will help your child to display the tricky words somewhere accessible- on the fridge or a kitchen cupboard and ask them to read the words regularly. See if your child can spot a tricky word in a book you are sharing together and read it to you. Have a go at writing the tricky words, draw them in sand, make them out of magnetic letters... Have fun with them!

Struggling to decode book

Every child is given a book they should be able to decode at this stage in their journey- remember to practice blending and segmenting at home even simple CVC words. E.g. cat, dog.

Struggling to focus or have motivation

Pick a time to read when you can focus together on the book in a quiet space. Find a time when your child is not too tired, maybe make this a regular time so your child gets used to a 'reading routine'. Look at the pictures together, discuss what might happen. Remember praise any attempts and correct gently.

My child is reading quickly and fluently, what should I do?

Great! Celebrate reading with your child. This is a focus book, based on a very specific assessment. The aim is that your child is able to decode it easily and build confidence and pride in their abilities. Extend your child through discussion of the book - comprehension is just as valuable as being able to decode what is on the page. Ask questions- why did this happen? What might happen next? How is the character feeling?

My child is finding reading really tricky. Do you offer any interventions to help them?

Children are assessed regularly and supported to fill any gaps in their phonic learning. This maybe as part of a small group or 1:1. Sometimes this will follow the Little Wandle intervention plan, sometimes your child may need individual activities to help support particular learning. Interventions are always 'little and often' to embed learning and groups are flexible depending on needs.