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## Phonics and early reading for parents

Aim- Tell you about how we teach reading and writing in school so that you can use strategies when you hear your children read or help them with writing at home.

Simple model of reading is based two skills

- **Word recognition**, which involves an understanding of how to sound words i.e. phonic knowledge, and visual recognition of words, which cannot be sounded out.
- **Understanding of the text**, which begins with speaking and listening then continues to develop through-out our lives e.g. from telling a story from a picture book to following instructions to plumb in a washing machine.

**To read well both skills are required.**

How do we teach these skills?

- Daily phonics lessons

We follow the "Letters and Sounds" programme. Articulation of the sounds in the english language can be found at:

[http://www.teachfind.com/national-strategies/letter-and-sounds-  
%E2%80%93-articulation-phonemes-vowels-and-consonants](http://www.teachfind.com/national-strategies/letter-and-sounds-%E2%80%93-articulation-phonemes-vowels-and-consonants)

- Guided reading - reading in a group usually with a focus on understanding the text.
- Reading to an adult one to one
- Daily literacy lesson
- Intervention of an adult during children's learning through play.
- Reading and writing across the curriculum so that children read/writing every day

How can you help at home:

- Regularly share and enjoy all different sorts of books and written texts at home with your child.
- Listen to your child read their school reading book, ensuring that your child is sounding unknown words where possible.
- Talk about the pictures and retell the story from the pictures in the school reading book.
- Further advice on encouraging your child to read is widely available on the internet. These two sites provide some good advice and information:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/primary\\_support/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/primary_support/)  
<http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/>