

How are phonics taught at Wentworth?

At Wentworth, we have developed a structured approach to the teaching of phonics, starting with the easiest sounds and progressing through to the most complex.

Foundation and Key Stage 1:

Children take part in phonics sessions every morning for twenty minutes. Each session focuses on a different sound which the children practise, use and apply in a variety of activities. Phonics teaching includes phonic work, synthesis and segmentation and spelling of high frequency words. Children are encouraged to use their phonics skills to decode new words in their reading books.

Children who are progressing more slowly with their phonic development work with a teaching assistant in small groups during the phonics sessions. They may receive additional support in one-to-one or small group interventions with a teacher or teaching assistant. Extension activities are provided for children who are making accelerated progress in their phonic development.

Key Stage 2:

Phonics is not explicitly taught in Key Stage 2, as the focus moves to spelling rules, though phonetic approaches may be used in Spelling sessions. During independent reading, children are encouraged to use their phonic skills to decode new or unfamiliar words. For children who need more support, interventions are planned and delivered to develop and consolidate the use of phonics for reading and spelling.

Support Materials

At Wentworth, we use a range of materials to support the teaching of phonics including:

- Letters and Sounds
- LCP Phonics
- Espresso
- Online resources (eg. Phonics Play, Mr Thorne)
- Jolly Phonics
- KRM by Psychological and Education Research Consultants