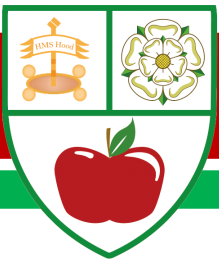


Applegarth Primary School

Aim High... Be Happy... Celebrate Together



A Guide to the
Phonics Screening Check
June 2022



The Phonics Screening Check 2022

Dear families,

In June 2022, the national window for the Phonics Screening Check assessment will open (week commencing 6th June 2022). This booklet has been designed to help you understand what the phonics screening check is, what happens and how you can help at home.

A copy of this leaflet as well as further information about phonics can be found on our Phonics and Early Reading page on our school website: <https://www.applegarth.n-yorks.sch.uk/our-curriculum/reading-and-phonics/>. You will also find a video on this page to help explain the information within this booklet; you can find it by scrolling down the page, or clicking on this direct link: <https://vimeo.com/712645309>

If you have any further questions about the phonics screening check, you can speak with your child's class teacher, our Phonics and Early Reading Lead, Mrs Hopkin or Mrs Mitchell (Bumblebee class), our Phonics and Early Reading Lead shadow.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hopkin

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



What is the Phonics Screening Check?

Children in Year 1 throughout the country will all be taking part in a phonics screening check during the same week in June. This year, the check will take place the week beginning Monday 6th June. Children in Year 2 will also take the check if they did not achieve the required result on their Year 1 phonics screening check, or if they have not taken the test before. Your class teacher will let you know if your Year 2 child will be taking the phonics screening check this year.

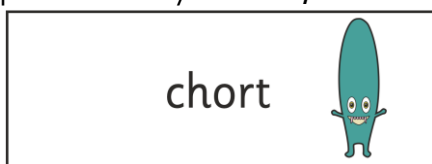
The phonics screening check is designed to confirm whether individual children have learnt phonics decoding and blending skills to an appropriate standard. Accurate word reading at 6 years old can be a good predictor of future reading success.

What Happens During the Screening?

The check contains 40 words. Each child will sit one-to-one and read each word aloud to their teacher. The check usually takes approximately 10 minutes per child, although all children are different and will complete the check at their own pace. The list of words the children read is a combination of 20 real words and 20 pseudo words (nonsense words). The check will take place in a quiet area which your child is comfortable and familiar with. Your child is used to having half-termly phonics assessments on a one-to-one basis with their class teacher, and will therefore be very familiar with the format. Your child will not be aware that they are sitting a national check.

Pseudo Words (Nonsense Words)

The pseudo words will be shown to your child with a picture of an alien; this is something the children are very familiar with. The alien image provides the children with a context for the pseudo word which is independent from any existing vocabulary they may have. Pseudo words are included because they will be new to all pupils; they do not favour children with a good vocabulary knowledge or visual memory. Examples of pseudo words from the 2019 phonics screening check, and how they are presented to your child, are below:



Reporting to Results

By the end of summer term, you will receive your child's phonics results. This is to confirm if your child has met the standard threshold. When the national phonics screening check last took place, the pass mark was 32 out of 40. Children who do not achieve the expected level will retake the check when they are in Year 2.

How Can You Help Your Child at Home?

You have already done so much to support your child's early reading and phonics journey at home and we thank you for that. Thank you for engaging with the eBooks and practising any additional sounds your child's class teacher has provided for you. You can further support your child by:

- reading as much as possible to and with your child;
- encourage and praise – get your child to use their decoding and blending skills when sounding out new and unfamiliar words;
- if your child is finding it tricky to decode a word, help them by encouraging them to say each sound in the word from left to right;
- blend the sounds by pointing to each one and blending to say the word, e.g. /c/ /a/ /t/ in cat;
- discuss the meaning of words if your child does not know what they have read.

What's in the Phonics screening check?

All Phase 2 and 3 GPCs are tested.

Phase 4: example words		
VCC	ant	
CCVC	frog	green
CVCC	best	boast
CCVCC	clump	spoil
CCCV		three
CCCVC	scrub	screen
CCCVCC	strict	

All phases: words ending in -s			
hats	keeps	crowds	spikes

All phases: two-syllable words				
panic	model	forest	portrait	blossom
label	saucers	reptiles	reaching	beehive

Phase 5 GPCs: vowels					
/ai/	a-e	ay			
/ee/	e	ea	e-e	ie	
/igh/	i	i-e	ie		
/oa/	o	o-e	ou	ow	
/oo/	u-e	ew	ue	ou	
/yoo/	u	u-e	ou	ew	ue
/ow/	ou				
/e/	ea				
/oi/	oy				
/or/	au	aw			
/ar/	a*				
/u/	ou				
/oo/	u*				

*depending on accent

Phase 5 GPCs: consonants		
/s/ c	/sh/ ch	/c/ ch
/j/ g	/f/ ph	/w/ wh