



# Newbold Church of England Primary School

At Newbold we aim to support each other to live, learn and excel together as a Christian community.

*"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up," 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

## Phonics and Early Reading

Phonics is a way of teaching children to read skillfully and successfully. Children are taught to recognise sounds that each individual letter makes and identify the sounds that are different combinations make – such as 'sh' or 'oo'. They are then taught to blend these sounds together from left to write to make a word.

Children can use this knowledge to 'de-code' new words they hear or see. This is the first important step in learning to read. Phonics lessons are taught everyday for 20-30 minutes, according to the children's age, throughout Reception and Year One.

At Newbold we follow the Read, Write Inc. phonics scheme which splits the teaching of sounds into three sets and uses phrases to help the children remember the sound, for example 'ou, shout it out'. The children learn to blend these sounds throughout the scheme and are also introduced to 'red' words (common exception words) which they learn to read by sight. The children read books from the Read, Write, inc. scheme, as well as Dandelion readers, which give them the opportunity to practice blending the sounds they know and reading 'red' words within a text gradually building up their skills.

As the children are introduced to new sounds they are given the sounds on cards to practice at home as repetition is the key to confidence in phonics. The children also have rocket words to practice their 'red' words (common exception words). When starting to read in reception the children are given an individual reading book but from the reception summer term onwards, most children, will begin to read in groups and will take home the group reading book to practice and also have access to a book bag book. The children will also choose a library book to enjoy reading with their family which can be changed as often as they would like.

Records are kept in the Home/School reading record and parents are supported through parent's meetings, letters and talking to the class teacher. Parents can also access the advice given by using the link to the parent's page of the Read Write Inc. website which contains videos and resources.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>

It is particularly important that adults at home say the sounds in the same way as they are taught in school. On the parent's page there is a video to give support.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q>

### **Oxford Owl Reading book link**

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/login?active-tab=students>

We believe all children who receive good teaching of phonics will learn the skills they need to de-code new words; however extra support is in place for children if needed as they move into Year Two. They can then go on to read any kind of text fluently and confidently, and continue to read for enjoyment.

Phonics works best when children are given plenty of encouragement and learn to enjoy reading a whole variety of books.