

Phonics at Belvoirdale

What is Phonics?

Phonics is the way that children are taught to read and write words by linking written letters to spoken sounds. To learn to read and write, children need to learn several basic skills:

1. Linking written letters to sounds
2. Writing the letters and letter combinations
3. Blending sounds together to read words
4. Segmenting words into sounds for writing
5. Reading and spelling 'tricky' or 'common exception' words

How is Phonics taught at Belvoirdale?

At Belvoirdale we use Song of Sounds, a multi-sensory, engaging and dynamic scheme that puts the fun back into Phonics!

For each letter, digraph or trigraph there is a rhyme, picture and action which helps children remember the sound it makes. These are taught through a song which is sung every day!

When does phonics happen?

Phonics is taught **every day** in EYFS and KS1. Every week, children have 4 x 25 minute phonics sessions, plus a longer consolidation session every Friday where they revise and apply their learning for the week.

As well as their phonics sessions, children apply their phonics skills and knowledge every time they read or write, for example when writing a narrative, reading information about historical events, or reporting on the results of their scientific investigations.

What is the Phonics Screening Check?

The phonics screening check is something that all Year 1 pupils take, usually in June. It is designed to give teachers and parents information on how your child is progressing in phonics. It consists of 40 words, 20 real, and 20 pseudo-words. Your child will need to use their phonics to read each word. The check takes place in a quiet environment and is done 1:1, usually with your child's teacher. The results are reported to parents by the end of the summer term. For more information, please speak to your child's teacher, and look out for our parents phonics meetings and workshops.

Useful phonics websites and links

Song of Sounds Facebook page – Lots of little creative ideas from the authors to try at home

<https://www.facebook.com/SongofSounds>

Songs of Sounds YouTube channel: Songs to practice with children at home

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBtu3YgMtiNUFKIyy6aRYQQ>

Song of sounds website – A comprehensive parent's guide to Song of Sounds

<https://www.songofsounds.co.uk/page/?title=Learning+at+Home&pid=8>

Phonicsplay.co.uk – This has some great games to practise blending and segmenting, and reading real and alien words. Please note:

Stage 1 (EYFS) = Phase 2, 3 & 4

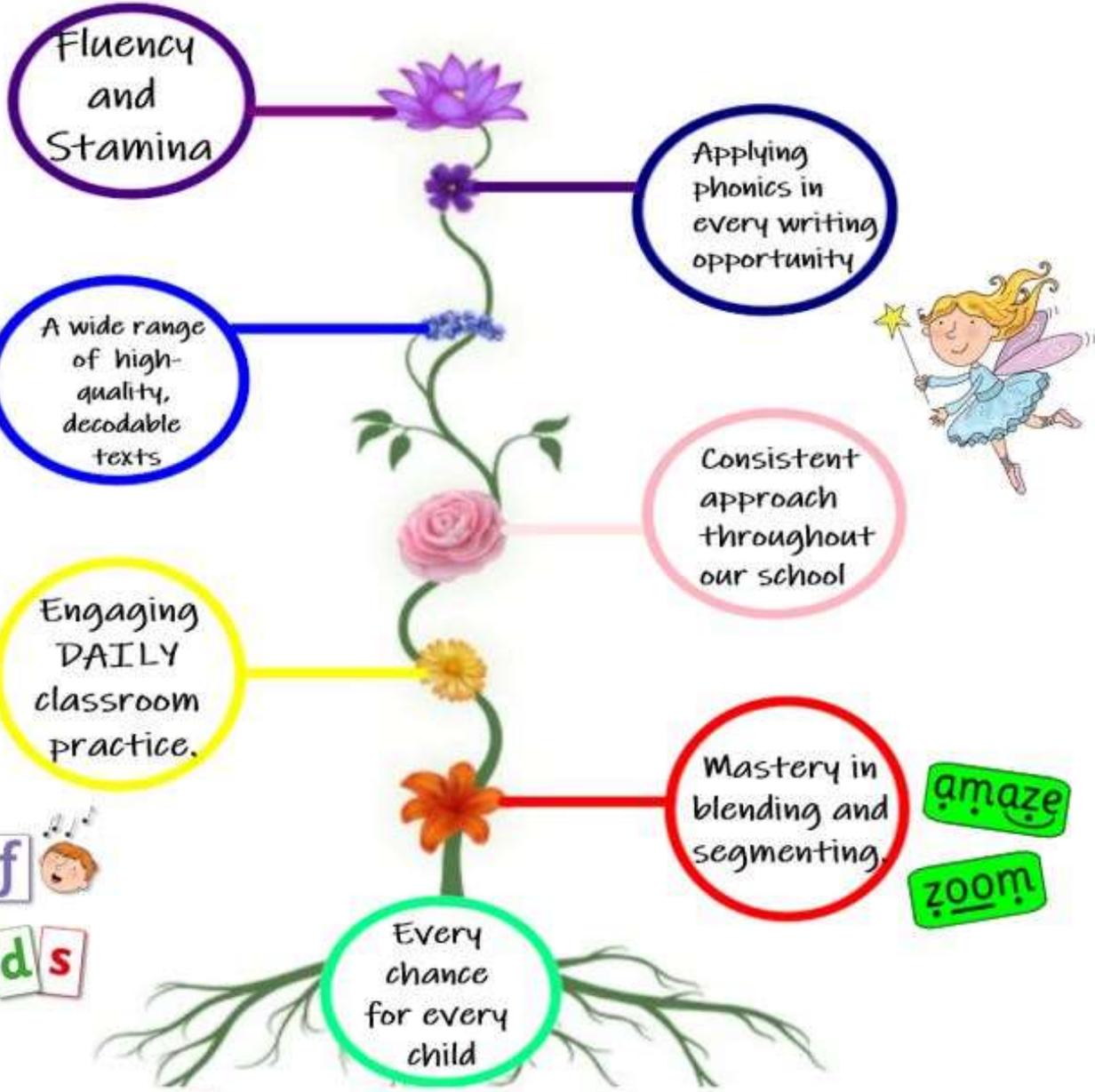
Stage 2 (Y1) = Phase 5

Stage 3 (Y2) = Phase 6

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources>

Spellingplay.co.uk – This has some fun spelling games for Y2 children to practise adding suffixes, identifying long and short vowels, and applying spelling rules

<https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/interactive-resources>



Phonics

Every day,
building the foundations
of fluency.

Dream it Learn it Live it
Belvoirdale