



# St Mary's RC Primary School and Nursery, a Voluntary Academy

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## Introduction to phonics



Dear Parents and Families,

At St Mary's our children follow the Read Write Inc programme in phonics.

### How does it work?

The children are assessed and grouped according to their ability. They work in small groups with a teacher or teaching assistant to learn the sounds that they need to know. At the end of each half term, the children will be assessed again to check they have made progress and will be grouped again.

### Reading:

Through RWI, the children will learn to read effortlessly so that they can put all of their energy into understanding what they are reading. The children will learn 44 sounds and the corresponding letter/letter groups using simple picture prompts. The children learn to read real and 'nonsense' words by blending sounds together. These sounds can be stretchy sounds or bouncy sounds.

### Blending:

children learn to read words by blending the letter/sounds that are in the Speed Sound sets. You can help your child to read words by sound-blending (Fred Talk as we call it in phonics) e.g. c-a-t = cat. In RWI we use pure sounds. This means removing the 'uh' from the sounds.

### Sound pronunciation guide:

Please see this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUq7Q>

Another useful site for supporting your child with their phonics is the Oxford Owl website:

**Set 1 sound order:**

m a s d t  
i n p g o  
c k u b  
f e l h sh r  
j v y w  
th z ch qu x ng nk

**Homework:**

As previously explained on our homework letter, your child's reading book will be phonics based according to where they are working at. It is very important you read the books sent home with your child as much as you can, preferably each day. Books are changed every Wednesday. We will also sent home phonics sheets as part of homework to support learning in class.

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,  
Mrs Oldham