Phonics and Early Reading at Danson

Phonics is a systematic synthetic approach to teaching children to read and write. It is an approach which teaches children to recognise letters (graphemes) and their associated sounds (phonemes). Children are taught the sounds instead of letter names so that they can blend and segment from an early age.

At Danson, we understand that phonics is the key to fostering confident, independent readers. Skilled word reading involves both the speedy working out of the pronunciation of unfamiliar printed words (decoding) and the speedy recognition of familiar printed words. Underpinning both is the understanding that the letters on the page represent the sounds in spoken words.

At Danson, we use the Read Write Inc. programme and resources to deliver high-quality, daily phonics sessions for children in Reception, Key Stage One and any children in Key Stage Two who still require phonics support. Children are taught at their personal challenge point and read Read Write Inc. books in school and at home that are closely aligned with their ability.

Nursery

From September, the main focus in nursery is reading stories and rhymes to children and developing their language. These should be repeated over and over again using the same actions and special emphasis every time.

The children are introduced to phonics through practising using 'pure sounds', using Fred Talk to teach oral blending and teaching children to name the pictures.

In the summer term, children will be taught one sound a day. When the children can read all the single letter Set 1 sounds speedily, they will start to blend in small groups.

All pupils continuing to Reception at Danson will revisit the phonics taught in Nursery.

Reception

As soon as children enter Reception, they complete a phonics entry assessment. During the first five weeks, the children take part in 5-minute speed sound sessions learning to read the single letter sounds. During the day, they will also participate in small group sessions practising letter formation and learning to blend. In order to help all children to read sounds and learn to blend quickly, the class teacher uses Fred Talk and plays Fred Talk games and regular 'Pinny Time' (reviewing the sounds taught so far speedily) throughout the day. If there are any children who haven't learnt the sounds, extra practice is given through one-to-one tutoring immediately.

The children are then formally assessed half-termly and will join the phonics groups across Key Stage 1 from Spring 1.

Below is an outline of the expected progression in phonics in Reception.

Autumn 1 Sounds Group B	Read Set 1 sounds Learn to blend: Word Time 1.1 to 1.4 Spell using Fred Fingers	masdtinpgockub felhrjvywzqx
Autumn 2 Sounds Group C	Read 25 Set 1 single letter sounds speedily Blend independently using Phonics Green Word cards: Word Time 1.1 to 1.5 Spell using Fred Fingers	e.g. jam, win
Spring 1 Ditty Group	Read Set 1 Special Friends Read words with Special Friends: Word Time 1.6 Review Word Time 1.1 to 1.5 Read 3-sound nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers	sh ck th ch ng nk e.g. quick, chips
Spring 2 Red Group	Review Set 1 sounds speedily Read 4 and 5 sound words: Word Time 1.7 Review Word Fime 1.1 to 1.6 Read 3 and 4 sound nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers	
Summer Green Group	Read Set 2 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words Review Set 1 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers	ay ee igh ow oo <i>oo,</i> ar or air ir ou oy e.g. below, lightning

Years 1 and 2

Read Write Inc. is taught for 45 minutes every day in Years 1 and 2 and the children are grouped according to their challenge point. During the daily sessions, the children practise reading and spelling words containing the relevant sounds according to the group they are in, then they are given decodable books containing sounds and words they can read. They read each Storybook three times at school. On each reading, children's fluency increases and the more they can focus on what the story is about. Children also learn to spell the words they have been reading and develop their ideas into sentences so that they can write about the Storybooks they read.

One-to-one phonics tutoring is given to those children who need support in keeping up with the expected rate of progress.

Through our online Read Write Inc. Portal subscription, pupils are provided access to phonics videos to practise at home. These are set weekly as part of home learning and support pupils to retrieve and remember their sounds speedily.

Below is an outline of the expected progression in phonics in Year 1.

Year 1

Autumn 1 Purple	Read Set 2 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words Review Set 1 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers	ay ee igh ow oo <i>o oar</i> or air ir ou oy e.g. parking, enjoy
Autumn 2 Pink	Read Set 2 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words. Review Set 1 and 2 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers: focus on Set 2 words Once secure, read Set 3 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words	
Spring 1 Orange	Read Set 3 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words Review Set 1 and 2 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers: focus on Set 2 words	ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw are ur er ow ai oa ew ire ear ure tious tion e.g. outside, painted
Spring 2 and Summer 1 Yellow	Read Set 3 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words Review Set 1, 2 and 3 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers: Set 2 and 3 words	
Summer 2 Blue	Read Set 3 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words Review Set 1, 2 and 3 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers: Set 2 and 3 words	

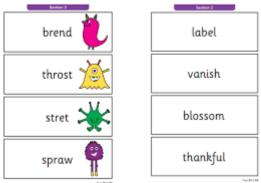
Below is an outline of the expected progression in phonics in Year 2.

Year 2

Autumn 1	Read Set 3 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words Review Set 1, 2 and 3 Phonics Green Words Read nonsense words	ea oi a-e i-e o-e u-e aw are ur er ow ai oa ew ire ear ure tious tion
Blue	Spell using Fred Fingers: Set 2 and 3 words	e.g. outside, painted
Autumn 2 and Spring 1	Read unfamiliar multi-syllabic words Review Set 1, 2 and 3 sounds and matching Phonics Green Words including longer words speedily	e.g. ambitious, creation, fearful
Grey	Read nonsense words Spell using Fred Fingers: multi-syllabic, Set 2 and 3 words	
Spring 2 and Summer	Whole class reading	

The Phonics Screening Assessment

The phonics test is a national test completed in the summer term in Year 1 and consists of 40 words that are a mixture of pseudo words and real words. Pseudo words are alien words - sounds that are put together to purely test the child's phonetic ability. Its sole purpose is to determine whether a child can phonetically decode single words to an annually predetermined national standard. Children are able to re-sit the assessment in Year 2 if required. Below is an example of some words from a previous screening test.



Transition into Key Stage 2

As the children move to Year 3, those children that have not completed the Read Write Inc. programme at the end of Year 2, will continue to receive phonics intervention in small groups. If there are any children across KS2 that require phonics intervention, one-to-one tutoring will be delivered.