

Learning to read

At St Aidan's, we teach phonics using Monster Phonics, a DfE validated scheme. Monster Phonics is a highly-engaging, structured, synthetic phonics programme. It facilitates learning by allowing children to learn new graphemes by using monsters to group graphemes for recall and to provide an easy and fun memory cue for children.



Foundations in Nursery

Nursery children follow the Foundations Programme to develop speaking and listening skills. Children learn to become attuned to the sounds and begin to develop oral blending and segmenting skills. This teaching lays the foundations for teaching of systematic synthetic phonics.

Phonic lessons

Phonics is taught in daily in thirty minute sessions in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The class teacher delivers the lessons with the support of a teaching assistant, who will identify and support any children not keeping up with the learning. The phonics lessons are fun, engaging and focused, using a wide range of resources.

Assessment

Following a daily assessment during every lesson, any children who are not keeping up with the learning use the same day Monster Phonics Interventions.

Regular assessments are built into the yearly phonics progression map.

In Year 1 children take part in the screening check.

Involving Parents

It is essential that reading is supported at home. We provide information on how to support reading at home along with a recommended book list for each year group. Parents are invited to Year 1 phonics meetings about how to support their child for the phonics screening check.