

Stroud Valley Community Primary School is teaching phonics and the foundations of English using Phonics International, from Reception through to Key Stage 2.

What is Phonics International?

Phonics International is a DfE validated programme. It is a systematic synthetic phonics scheme which is designed for children from Reception into Key Stage 2. The programme is also suitable for people learning English as an additional language, regardless of their age. There are also complementary resources for pre-school children ([click here](#)) and most Phonics International resources are FREE online ([click here](#)).

It is a robust programme that gives equal importance to the three areas of foundational English: handwriting ([click here](#)), reading (decoding, blending - from print to sound - and sight reading) and spelling (encoding from sound to print). Children will learn to form letters (upper and lower case), read and spell the alphabetic code ([click link](#)) simultaneously.

How will your child learn?

All children have their very own No-Nonsense Phonics Skills workbook which is theirs to work through at pace and use to consolidate prior learning. It is a language rich book that is treasured. Within their book, they: revise previously taught code, learn letter formation, decode unknown words and read known words, learn spelling rules and patterns, read fully decodable texts, learn to read common exception words and comprehend through speaking and drawing.

Whilst learning new code and practising previously taught code, they will read age appropriate texts as part of their phonics lesson. They will also write sentences containing words with the focus code. The approach is multi-sensory meaning that the children: listen, say, write and draw to help embed new learning. This programme utilises mnemonics which are picture cues that accompany each piece of code, *e.g. an image of the night sky for igh as in night*. The adults provide children with more time if they need it, additional challenges and plenty of opportunities to apply what they have learnt during the lesson, and throughout the day as part of their continuous provision. Their environment fully supports their learning so they can access phonics provision throughout the day.

Phonics International uses a two-pronged approach to teaching phonics. The first is the structured systematic synthetic phonics lessons described above. The second is the incidental teaching of code as and when it appears in lessons across the school day. For example, if children are learning how to use a dictionary then they will need to be taught that the 'ti' in the word 'dictionary' is code for the sound /sh/. We have also invested in fully decodable books ([click here](#)) that support and compliment the Phonics International lessons that your child receives. Additional, complimentary PI activities are available for children to take home so they can show you what they are learning at school. Within their book bag, they will also have a reading book and book for you to read to them at home.

Click on the links above and on the Phonics section of our website to discover more.

Weblinks:

Main link to Phonics International: <https://phonicsinternational.com/>

Handwriting: https://phonicsinternational.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Tabletop_Alphabet_V2.pdf

Preschool: <https://phonicsinternationalpreschool.com/>

Fully decodable books: <https://phonicsintervention.org/product/phonics-reading-books-books-1-5-one/>

The English Alphabetic Code Chart with audio: <https://syntheticphonics.com/the-english-alphabetic-code-with-audio/>