

# A Guide to Phonics Teaching at Muskham Primary

At Muskham we use the 'Essential Letters and Sounds' scheme to teach Phonics in Foundation and Year 1. In Year 2, the 'Spelling Shed' is followed.

Phonics/Spelling is taught daily for 40 minutes following the Revisit- Teach-Practise-Apply structure in Foundation and KS1.

## Phases Taught

	<u>Autumn</u>	<u>Spring</u>	<u>Summer</u>
Foundation	Phase 2 Phase 3	Phase 3 Phase 4	Phase 4 Phase 5
Year 1	Recap of previous sounds taught. Further alternative spellings of Phase 5 phonemes and rarely used GPCs from Phase 5.		

## Language and Representations

In order to ensure consistency as children move through school the same language and representations are used.

Language used:

- Phoneme – the smallest unit of sound
- Grapheme – written form of the smallest unit of sound
- Digraph – a single sound represented by 2 letters
- Trigraph – a single sound represented by 3 letters
- Split vowel digraph – e-e, u-e, i-e, o-e, a-e
- Segmenting –for spelling
- Blending – for reading

When teaching reading and spelling of words that are not phonetically decodable, these are referred to as 'harder to read and spell words'.

## Representations

- Sound buttons – for a phoneme represented by a single letter a dot is used, and for a phoneme represented by more than one letter a line is used.



- Phoneme frames

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- 'Robot Arms' to represent segmenting

### Resources

- Sound mats which link each grapheme to a picture and mnemonic.
- Websites: <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> and <https://www.phonicsbloom.com/> to practise reading skills.

### Assessment

Formative assessment – this takes place during the review and apply section of each lesson and during reading and writing activities. The 'Essential Letters and Sounds' scheme allows staff to address any gaps in a timely manner through appropriate intervention.

Summative assessment – A baseline assessment on entry into Foundation and Year 1, and thereafter at the end of each half-term.