Introduction to Phonics at Aldersbrook Primary School (EYFS)

20th October 2026



AMBITION • BRAVERY • COMMUNITY

Plan

1. Welcome and Why
2. Foundations of phonics (Nursery)
3. Phonics lessons (Reception)
4. Demonstration - all join in!
5. Reading groups (Reception)
6. Your role
7. Flashcards and questions

Why Little Wandle?



- What would give our children the best start?
- Extensively used across the country
- Evidence based programme
- Ensures all children succeed
- Focuses on improving fluency
- Clear, consistent sequence
- Love of reading

The Phonics Skills (Nursery)

- **Listening and attention** - noticing sounds, listening carefully, taking turns in conversations
- **Language and vocabulary** - talking, singing, sharing rhymes, hearing new words
- **Sound awareness** - rhyme, rhythm, noticing sounds in words
- **Sound talk** - when appropriate hearing and blending spoken sounds in words



Little Wandle Foundations Programme

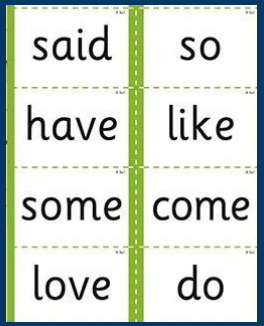
- **Rhyme Time** - 20 nursery rhymes, familiarity with rhythm and sound, shared language
- **Tuning into Sounds** - environmental and body sounds, alliteration, voice sounds, oral blending and segmenting
- **Love of Reading** - 10 language-rich picture books
- **Quality adult interaction**



Reception Phonics Lessons

- 20 minutes daily whole-class teaching
- Four parts:
    - Revisiting sounds and words
    - Teaching new sound
    - Practise reading new words/sentence
    - Writing sound/words
- Shuffle time during the day
- Regular assessment and same day keep up sessions





Reception

Autumn 1 Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
s a t p i n m d g o c k ck e u r h b f l	is I the

Autumn 2 Phase 2 graphemes	New tricky words
ff ll ss j v w x y z zz qu ch sh th ng nk • words with –s /s/ added at the end (hats sits) • words ending in s /z/ (his) and with –s /z/ added at the end (bags sings)	put* pull* full* as and has his her go no to into she push* he of we me be

*The tricky words 'put', 'pull', 'full' and 'push' may not be tricky in some regional pronunciations, in which case they should not be treated as such.

Spring 1 Phase 3 graphemes	New tricky words
ai ee igh oa oo **oo** ar or ur ow oi ear air er • words with double letters • longer words	was you they my by all are sure pure

Spring 2 Phase 3 graphemes	No new tricky words
Review Phase 3 • words with double letters, longer words, words with two or more digraphs, words ending in –ing, compound words • words with s /z/ in the middle • words with –s /s/ /z/ at the end • words with –es /z/ at the end	Review all taught so far

Summer 1 Phase 4	New tricky words
Short vowels with adjacent consonants • CVCC CCVC CCVCC CCCVC CCCVCC • longer words and compound words • words ending in suffixes: –ing, –ed /t/, –ed /id/ /ed/, –est	said so have like some come love do were here little says there when what one out today

Summer 2 Phase 4	No new tricky words
Phase 3 long vowel graphemes with adjacent consonants • CVCC CCVC CCCVC CCV CCVCC • words ending in suffixes: –ing, –ed /t/, –ed /id/ /ed/, –ed /d/ –er, –est • longer words	Review all taught so far

Demonstration

- Flashcards
- Learning new sound
- Reading word cards
- Reading sentence

Reception Reading Sessions

- Three sessions a week in small groups
- Adult listens to each child read individually
- **Day 1** - decoding
- **Day 2** - prosody
- **Day 3** - comprehension





How can you help?

- Children will bring home
  - Phonics book - to show off their skills
  - Reading for pleasure book - for you to read to them





Reading Phonics Books at Home (Reception)

- Books only contain taught sounds
- No reading records
- Encourage children to decode unfamiliar words
- If a book seems easy, this is purposeful as children need to build accuracy, confidence and fluency
- Repeated reading allows for phrasing and expression



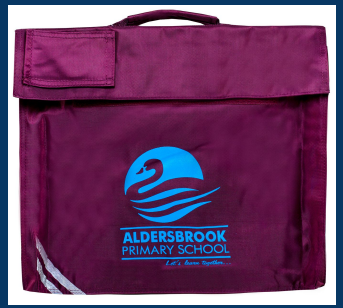
Reading for Pleasure Books at Home

- This book is for you to read to your child
- Make the story sound exciting as you can by changing your voice
- Talk with your child as much as you can:
  - Ask what your child thinks, notices or wonders
  - Introduce new and exciting language
  - Make up sentences together
  - Find different words to use
  - Describe things you can see



Your part

- Please return phonics books (Reception only) on **Mondays**. Returning them on time means the next child can take their book home and practise too
- Reading for pleasure books change on **Thursdays**
- Keep sharing stories, poems and rhymes even when your child can read independently



Your Part - Pure Sounds

- Use pure sounds where you can - avoid adding an extra ‘uh’ after a consonant



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 1



Phase 2 sounds taught in Reception Autumn 2



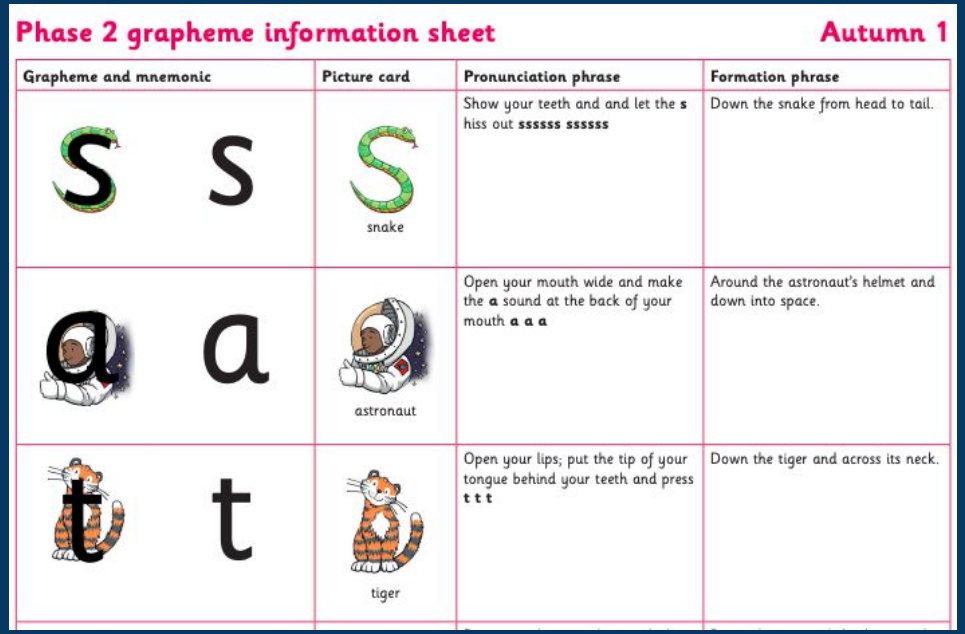
Phase 3 sounds taught in Reception Spring 1



How to say Phase 5 sounds

https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

Your Part - Letter Formation



Phase 2 grapheme information sheet — **Autumn 1**

Grapheme and mnemonic	Picture card	Pronunciation phrase	Formation phrase
s s	snake	Show your teeth and and let the **s** hiss out **ssssss ssssss**	Down the snake from head to tail.
a a	astronaut	Open your mouth wide and make the **a** sound at the back of your mouth **a a a**	Around the astronaut's helmet and down into space.
t t	tiger	Open your lips; put the tip of your tongue behind your teeth and press **t t t**	Down the tiger and across its neck.

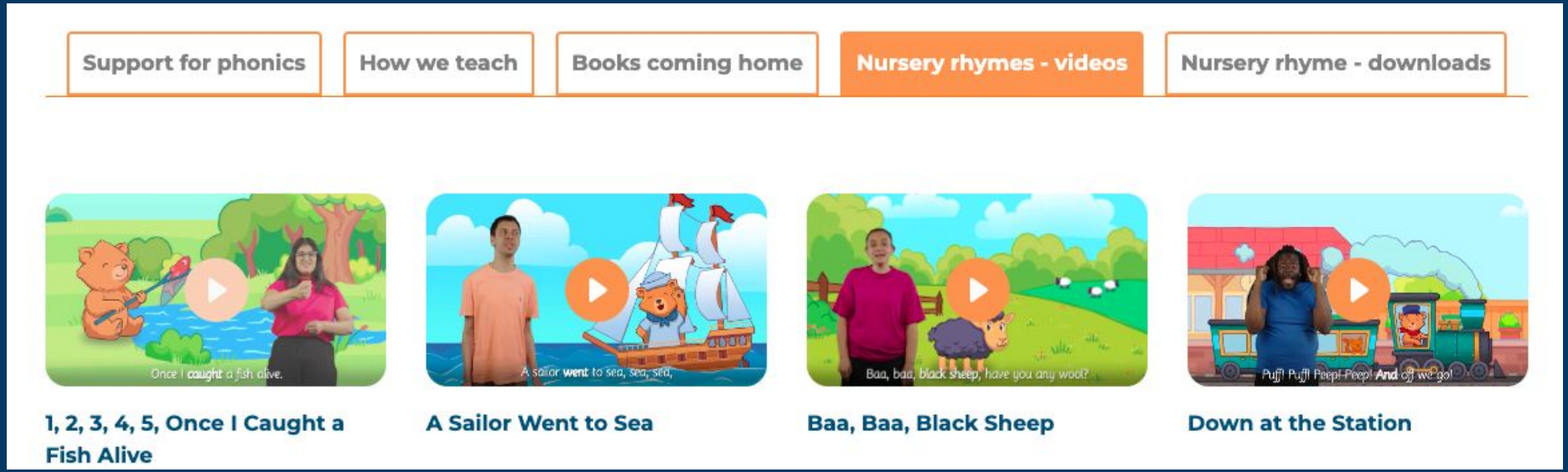
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Your Part - Tricky Words

Phase 2 tricky word	Tricky part(s)	Why is it tricky?
is as has his	s	The 's' makes the sound **z**. **Learning so far:** For 's', your child has learned the sound **s** as in 'sat'. They will learn that 's' can make the sound **z** later in the Autumn term.
I	i	The 'i' makes the sound **igh**. **Learning so far:** For 'i', your child has learned the sound **i** as in 'pin'.
the	th e	Your child has not yet learned the digraph 'th' or the schwa sound made by the 'e'.

https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

Your Part - Nursery Rhymes



https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

Flashcards at Home

- School provides the teaching and resources children need to succeed; buying cards is optional
- There is a small profit which goes straight back into classroom resources





Reception Level £15





Year 1/2 Level £8

Thank you

- Read little and often, and keep reading for pleasure
- Please return school reading books on time
- Children learn at different rates; regular teaching and assessment help us respond
- If you have a concern about your child's reading, please speak to us so we can talk it through
- Questions…