



Intent:

At Thrapston Primary School we are passionate about ensuring all children become confident and enthusiastic readers and writers. We believe that phonics provides the foundations of learning to make the development into fluent reading and writing easier. Through phonics, children learn to segment words to support their spelling ability and blend sounds to read words. The teaching of phonics is of high priority.

Implementation:

At Thrapston Primary School, our phonics programme begins in Nursery and happens on a daily basis. From Reception, phonics is taught in small ability groups. Each session is challenging and engaging: we are reactive to the changing needs of learners.

At Thrapston Primary School, we use the Letters & Sounds programme to ensure the progressive development of skills, so that pupils can decode effectively. In all writing across the curriculum, pupils are provided with the opportunity to develop and embed these key skills.

At Thrapston Primary School, the teaching of phonics is progressive from Nursery up to Year 2. Children in our Nursery work on Phase One phonics, which concentrates on developing their speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2. As children move into Reception and through KS1 they continue to build on their listening skills and are introduced to Phase 2 which marks the start of systematic phonics work. They have discrete, engaging and challenging daily phonics sessions where they revise previous learning, are taught new graphemes/phonemes, practise together and apply what they have learnt. Through Letters and Sounds, the children are taught the 44 phonemes that make up all the sounds required for reading and spelling. These phonemes include those made by just one letter and those that are made by two or more. Children work through the different phases and as they grow in confidence and experience, they are introduced to alternative ways of representing the same sound.

Impact:

Through the teaching of systematic phonics, our aim is for children to become fluent readers by the end of Key Stage 1. Children can then focus on developing fluency and comprehension throughout the school.

Attainment in phonics is measured by the Phonics Screening Test at the end of Year 1, as well as regular, ongoing teacher assessments. The impact of our phonics curriculum can be seen in children's writing, in outcomes and in discussion with the children.