

Y1 Phonics Screening Check



- General Information about the Screening Check.
- The purpose of the check.
- How it is administered
- How you can support your child



What is the Phonics Screening Check?

- The government introduced the Phonics Screening Check to all schools in June 2012.
- All children in Year 1 take the test in June.
- Provides information for teachers and parents on how each child is progressing in phonics.

What is the purpose of the check?

- Helps to identify whether a child needs additional support at this stage so that they do not fall behind in this vital early reading skill.



What does it check?

It will check how well a child can:

- Sound out and blend graphemes in order to read simple words.
- Read phonically de-codable one-syllable and two-syllable words.

How is the check structured?

- 40 words - 4 words per page
- Real and pseudo words ('alien' words)
- 'Alien' words have pictures to make clear they are not real words.
- Words become progressively more challenging.



drap



flarm



lect



voisk



thin

peck

torn

cheek

fount



wape



pelck



splune



voo



jound



terg



fape



Please be aware that these resources are not endorsed by the Standards and Testing Agency or the DfE. These are created as **practice aids only** and cannot be used during the Year 1 phonics screening.

Why 'alien' words?

- The purpose of the alien words is to check the child's ability to use their phonic knowledge to decode.
- The words are made up of graphemes that they will have learnt.
- They can't be guessed!



How is the check administered?

- Class teacher - familiarity for children
- Quiet place- 1:1
- Takes around 5 to 10 minutes per child but no time limit
- Strict guidelines for teachers on how to administer the test to ensure consistency.

How is it marked?

Section 1				Section 2			
Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment	Word	Correct	Incorrect	Comment
ten				who			
ten				journal			
top				bag			
off				page			
jack				swamp			
there				blush			
hard				apron			
there				stitch			
blue				die			
stock				slide			
hid				nest			
camp				phone			
who				blank			
gang				train			
week				trip			
shut				write			
jet				map			
start				finger			
best				dentist			
books				starting			
				Total correct			

- The child is given 1 mark for each word that is correctly decoded.
- The check is marked whilst it is being administered.
- Can be externally moderated to ensure guidelines are followed.
- A 'pass' mark is set by the Department for Education. It is usually around 32.

What happens next?

- If a child does not meet the pass mark they are required to re-take the screening check in Year 2.
- The data is passed on to the Year 2 teachers so that they can plan any additional support that may be required.

How can you support your child?

- Keep practising the phonic sounds.
- Encourage your child to segment and blend new words when reading.
- Work on the words recently sent home in a pack to build confidence.
- Have fun making up 'alien' words that your child can segment and blend.

